

## Instructions for PRO-SE divorces (without an attorney)

**NOTE: THESE INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN MODIFIED TO DEAL WITH THE CLOSING OF THE CHANCERY CLERK'S OFFICES TO THE PUBLIC ON MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup>. PLEASE CALL US AT 662-469-8398 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.**

Mississippi Access to Justice website: [www.msatjc.org](http://www.msatjc.org)

If you choose to prepare your own Irreconcilable Divorce papers using the MSATJC.org website, please follow these guidelines:

1. You & your spouse must both agree to the divorce
2. You & your spouse cannot have children under 21 years of age together
3. If either of you owns Real Property (Houses or Land) or has Retirement benefits, you may not use this form. You should contact an attorney.
4. You & your spouse should understand that this information is available to you free of charge & is to help you generally understand the way divorce matters are handled in Mississippi. Local courts interpret things differently.
5. Understand that the completed forms & information you get from our office is **NOT** a substitute for legal advice about your particular case.
6. Make sure your **email** address and **phone number** are on the civil cover sheet before you file it with the Chancery Clerk's office.

By going forward without a lawyer, you are proceeding at your own risk. When possible, it is always best to speak with a lawyer before taking legal action. Additional information can be found on [www.mslegalservices.org](http://www.mslegalservices.org).

In order to be placed on the Court's Docket you (BOTH PARTIES) must complete your Mississippi Uniform Chancery Court Rule **8.05 Financial Statement with attachments** and your certificate of compliance. Attachments should include either **3 months of each spouse's paystubs or last years' tax returns. If filed jointly, only attach one copy.**

Drop off or Mail in your divorce packet to the Chancery Clerk, 2535 Hwy 51 S, Rm 100, Hernando, MS 38632. Include a check or money order for **\$148**. When all documents have been filed in to the Chancery Clerk's office, we will contact you with the phone number for the Court Administrator. She will give you the next available court date for your case.

On the day of your hearing, both of you should be in court at the time set for your hearing unless the Judge has excused one of you from attending. **You should bring an order or decree for the Judge to sign.** Attach a copy of the Property Settlement Agreement that was filed as part of your case to the order to be signed.

Once the Judge signs the order, it will be filed with the Chancery Clerk's office. Once filed, the Clerk's office will mail a copy to the address we have on file. Be sure to file a Notice of Address with the Clerk's office if your address has changed.

***Please Note: The Irreconcilable Divorce Packet provided by the Mississippi Access to Justice Commission does not guarantee you will get a divorce.***