

**AMENDED DALLAS COUNTY FAMILY DISTRICT COURTS
GENERAL ORDERS**

(Revised November 1, 2007)

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**DALLAS COUNTY STANDING ORDER REGARDING CHILDREN,
PETS, PROPERTY AND CONDUCT OF THE PARTIES**

No party to this lawsuit has requested this order. Rather, this order is a standing order of the Dallas County District Courts that applies in every divorce suit and every suit affecting the parent-child relationship filed in Dallas County. The District Courts of Dallas County giving preference to family law matters have adopted this order because the parties, their children and the family pets should be protected and their property preserved while the lawsuit is pending before the court.

Therefore, it is **ORDERED**:

1. **NO DISRUPTION OF CHILDREN.** Both parties are **ORDERED** to refrain from doing the following acts concerning any children who are subjects of this case:

1.1 Removing the children from the State of Texas, acting directly or in concert with others, without the written agreement of both parties or an order of this Court.

1.2 Disrupting or withdrawing the children from the school or day-care facility where the children are presently enrolled, without the written agreement of both parents or an order of this Court.

1.3 Hiding or secreting the children from the other parent or changing the children's current place of abode, without the written agreement of both parents or an order of this Court.

1.4 Disturbing the peace of the children.

1.5 Making disparaging remarks regarding the other party in the presence or within the hearing of the children. }

2. **PROTECTION OF FAMILY PETS OR COMPANION ANIMALS.** Both parties are to refrain from harming, threatening, interfering with the care, custody, or control of a pet, companion animal, that is possessed by a person protected by this order or by a member of the family or household of a person protected by this order.

3. **CONDUCT OF THE PARTIES DURING THE CASE.** Both parties are **ORDERED** to refrain from doing the following acts:

3.1 Using vulgar, profane, obscene, or indecent language, or a coarse or offensive manner to communicate with the other party, whether in person, by telephone, or in writing.

3.2 Threatening the other party in person, by telephone, or in writing to take unlawful action against any person.

3.3 Placing one or more telephone calls, at an unreasonable hour, in an offensive or repetitious manner, without a legitimate purpose of communication, or anonymously.

4. PRESERVATION OF PROPERTY AND USE OF FUNDS DURING DIVORCE CASE. If this is a divorce case, both parties to the marriage are ORDERED to refrain from doing the following acts:

- 4.1 Destroying, removing, concealing, encumbering, transferring, or otherwise harming or reducing the value of the property of one or both of the parties.
- 4.2 Misrepresenting or refusing to disclose to the other party or to the other party or to the Court, on proper request, the existence, amount, or location of any property of one or both of the parties.
- 4.3 Damaging or destroying the tangible property of one or both of the parties, including any document that represents or embodies anything of value, and causing pecuniary loss to the other party.
- 4.4 Tampering with the tangible property of one or both of the parties, including any document that represents or embodies anything of value, and causing pecuniary loss to the other party.
- 4.5 Selling, transferring, assigning, mortgaging, encumbering, or in any other manner alienating any of the property of either party, whether personal property or real estate property, and whether separate or community, except as specifically authorized by this order.
- 4.6 Incurring any indebtedness, other than legal expenses in connection with this suit, except as specifically authorized by this order.
- 4.7 Making withdrawals from any checking or savings account in any financial institution for any purpose, except as specifically authorized by this order.
- 4.8 Spending any sum of cash in either party's possession or subject to either party's control for any purpose, except as specifically authorized by this order.
- 4.9 Withdrawing or borrowing in any manner for any purpose from any retirement, profit-sharing, pension, death, or other employee benefit plan or employee savings plan or from any individual retirement account or Keogh account, except as specifically authorized by this order.
- 4.10 Signing or endorsing the other party's name on any negotiable instrument, check, or draft, such as tax refunds, insurance payments, and dividends, or attempting to negotiate any negotiable instrument payable to the other party without the personal signature of the other party.
- 4.11 Taking any action to terminate or limit credit or charge cards in the name of the other party.
- 4.12 Entering, operating, or exercising control over the motor vehicle in the possession of the other party.
- 4.13 Discontinuing or reducing the withholding for federal income taxes on wages or salary while this suit is pending.
- 4.14 Terminating or in any manner affecting the service of water, electricity, gas, telephone, cable television, or other contractual services, such as security, pest control, landscaping, or yard maintenance at the other party's residence or in any manner attempting to withdraw any deposits for service in connection with such services.