DOMESTIC RELATIONS INFOSHEET (Family Law)

The filing fee for new cases is \$140.00. The filing fee for reopening a closed case (for modification) is \$50.00. There is no fee to file for contempt to enforce a prior court order.

AOC Case Types filed in Domestic Relations

Divorce, Divorce with Support, Separate Maintenance, Annulment, Custody/Visitation, Child Support, Paternity, Paternity/Support, Domestic Abuse, Foreign Judgment, with all other new cases falling under the heading of Other.

Preparation of Documents

All complaints, petitions, motions, and/or orders are prepared, prior to filing in the clerk's office, by either an attorney or petitioner/complainant. This office does not provide any forms except <u>Petition For An Order of Protection</u> and <u>Petition For Leave To Proceed in Forma Pauperis</u> with required affidavit and order for judge's signature.

Legal Advice

In the State of Arkansas there is no law against a litigant representing self in a lawsuit (pro se). However, Domestic Relations does not offer legal advice or services. It is litigant's responsibility to become familiar with the Arkansas State Codes and Rules For Civil Procedure, which are required for effective self representation.

By Arkansas Code (9-15-203) the clerk's office "shall provide simplified forms and clerical assistance to help petitioners with the writing and filing of a petition under this chapter if the petitioner is not represented by counsel."