

§ IN THE DISTRICT COURT
§
§ 325th JUDICIAL DISTRICT
§
§ TARRANT COUNTY, TEXAS

Standing Order Regarding Self-Represented Litigants

For divorce cases filed in the 325th District Court of Tarrant County, after March 1, 2020, IT IS ORDERED that all self-represented litigants who meet the following criteria shall have their final divorce documents reviewed by the Tarrant County Domestic Relations Office (DRO).

Required criteria:

- *A petition for divorce is currently filed in Tarrant County.*
- *The divorce is uncontested, either by agreement (divorce decree is signed by the other party) or default (other party has signed a global waiver or has been served and failed to file an answer);*
- *The final decree form is from the Texas Supreme Court (promulgated TexasLawHelp.org); and*
- *Neither party to the divorce is presently represented by an attorney.*

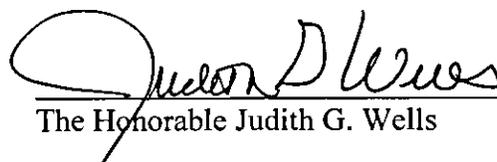
For divorces meeting the above criteria that are ready to be finalized, the self-represented litigant(s) shall contact the Domestic Relations Office, Legal Support Services (817-884-1879) to request a review.

As available, the DRO staff attorney shall review the final order/decree, any necessary attachments, and any other necessary documents. When satisfied the forms are complete, the attorney shall provide the self-represented litigant with a completed *Uncontested Docket Checklist*. The checklist informs the Court that the self-represented litigant has completed the necessary requirements to finalize the divorce and informs the Court of any issues to be addressed; furthermore, it enables the Court to conduct its uncontested docket in an efficient manner.

The litigant proving up the divorce must hand the *Uncontested Docket Checklist* to the court immediately prior to prove-up. A prove-up will not be conducted without a completed checklist.

Please note, the DRO staff attorney does not provide legal advice and does not represent the self-represented litigant. Setting an appointment is usually best, since walk-ins are dependent on an attorney's availability.

IT IS SO ORDERED on this the 25th day of February 2020.


The Honorable Judith G. Wells

COURTS MINUTES
TRANSACTION #6017