

**SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
PARISH OF JACKSON  
STATE OF LOUISIANA**

**SELF LITIGATION**

The law allows you to file for a divorce without the assistance of an attorney. The Clerk of Court staff cannot assist you. If there are children and/or property involved, we suggest you employ an attorney to assist you in obtaining a divorce.

**THERE ARE NO STANDARD FORMS FOR DIVORCE** because there are different types of divorces and different circumstances in each case.

**IF YOU DECIDE TO FILE FOR DIVORCE WITHOUT THE ASSISTANCE OF AN ATTORNEY, YOU MUST DO THE FOLLOWING.**

**DIVORCE ARTICLE 102:**

- 1. File a “Petition for Divorce” in the Clerk of Court Office and pay an advance filing fee of \$250.00**
- 2. After the petition has been served on the other party, you must wait 180 or 365 days from the date of service, whichever is applicable in your situation**
- 3. After the 180 or 365 days have passed, you must file a “Rule for final Divorce” in the Clerk’s office and another deposit of \$150.00 must be paid. If any money is left from the initial deposit of \$250, it can be applied toward this deposit.**
- 4. The Judge will set a court date. You and the defendant will be notified of this date.**
- 5. On the court date, you must come to Court with at least one witness and a typed “Judgment of Divorce”.**

**DIVORCE ARTICLE 103**

- 1. File a “Petition for Divorce” in the Clerk of Court Office and pay a filing fee of \$250.00**
- 2. The petition will be served on the other party. He/she will have 15 days to file an “Answer” to the petition. If no answer is filed, you must file a written request for a preliminary default against the defendant. The default will be entered by the Clerk on the next available court date. You will be mailed a copy of your request showing the date the default was entered.**
- 3. When you receive this, call the Clerk’s office and ask when the next civil court date will be to confirm a default.**
- 4. On the date you are given, you must come to court with at least one witness and a typed “Judgment of Divorce”. Before Court, go to the Clerk’s office and ask that your file be taken to court.**