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.