

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
29<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL CIRCUIT - COUNTY OF GRATIOT  
FAMILY COURT DIVISION**

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\_\_\_\_\_ ,

Plaintiff,

v

File no: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ,

Judge \_\_\_\_\_

Defendant.

**ORDER FOR REFERRAL**

At a session of said Court held in the Courthouse  
in the City of Ithaca, in said County, on  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

Before: Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, Judge

A motion regarding custody, parenting time and/or child support was filed by the  
\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_.

The Court has reviewed the motion, and;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

- A. The motion filed on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, is denied for failure to state a change of circumstances or proper cause to justify a change in the current order.
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ The motion filed for child support review shall be referred to the Friend of the Court for a child support review and recommendation which shall become the order of the court within twenty one (21) days of filing, unless objections are filed with the Clerk of the Court.
- C. The Plaintiff and Defendant shall participate in a **conciliation conference**, scheduled at the direction of the Friend of the Court, regarding the matter(s) of:
- \_\_\_\_\_ Custody
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Parenting Time
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Child Support

If the parties are unable to reach an agreement on any issue, the Friend of the Court shall make a recommendation to the Court, with copies to the parties and counsel of record. Said recommendation shall become the Order of the Court **unless a written objection is filed within 21 days with the Court Clerk, with copies provided to the Friend of the Court, the assigned Judge, and the opposing party or attorney of record for the**

**opposing party.** If a party is not represented by an attorney and they file an objection, the Friend of the Court will schedule a hearing before the Court. If an attorney is representing a party and the attorney files an objection, within thirty (30) days of filing an objection, the attorney must obtain a hearing date from the Court. The attorney must file a Notice of Hearing and Proof of Service on their objection. If no hearing date is obtained, the objection will be dismissed/denied.

D. The Friend of the Court shall conduct an **investigation** and make a recommendation to the Court, with copies to the parties and counsel of record, regarding the matter(s) of:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Custody
- \_\_\_\_\_ Parenting Time
- \_\_\_\_\_ Child Support

Said recommendation is to become the Order of the Court, subject to either parties' right to file an objection and request a hearing on said objection within 21 days of the recommendation being filed. **If an objection is filed, the moving party shall be responsible for providing copies of the objection and Notice of Hearing to the Friend of the Court, the assigned Judge, and the opposing party or attorney of record for the opposing party. Proof of Service of said Notice of Hearing must also be filed with the court clerk.** If no hearing date is obtained within 21 days of filing the objection, the objection will be dismissed/denied.

E. In the event this Order for Referral is granted, and the parties have previously opted out of the Friend of the Court services, they will be automatically opted back in by virtue of the moving party's request for a referral.

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Judge

**IT IS THE MOVING PARTY'S RESPONSIBILITY TO:**

1. **SERVE A COPY OF THE SIGNED ORDER FOR REFERRAL ON THE FRIEND OF THE COURT;**
2. **SERVE A COPY OF THE SIGNED ORDER FOR REFERRAL ON ALL ATTORNEYS/PARTIES OF RECORD;**
3. **FILE THE ATTACHED PROOF OF MAILING WITH THE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE.**