

# **SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANT**

## **MOTION & ORDER FOR CONTINUANCE**

This form is intended for litigants who:

- ✓ Have a hearing or other matter set before the court and/or a hearing officer and wish to have that matter continued until a future date.

### **Instructions:**

These instructions are meant to guide you through the process of **requesting a continuance**. Note that courts take scheduled dates seriously, and a continuance should be asked for only as a last option.

This packet of forms is not legal advice and cannot take the place of the advice that a lawyer can give you. It is always best to speak with a lawyer before taking any legal action. **When you represent yourself in court, you must follow all the proper procedures and the law. It is your responsibility to see your case through the whole process.**

1. Be sure you have the correct form.
2. Read all instructions before you begin.
3. Fill in the blanks with 100% accurate information- *any false statement made in court or written in a court document may constitute perjury.*
4. Check all options that pertain to your situation.
5. Attach any supporting documentation (i.e. a doctor's note) related to your request
6. If you have trouble reading, writing, or understanding what is in this motion, seek help at the 14<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court on 1001 Lakeshore Drive in Lake Charles.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Petitioner)

14<sup>TH</sup> JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

VERSUS

DOCKET NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Defendant)

CALCASIEU PARISH, LOUISIANA

FILED: \_\_\_\_\_

DEPUTY CLERK \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

**MOTION AND ORDER FOR CONTINUANCE**

NOW INTO COURT, comes \_\_\_\_\_, the Respondent, appearing in "proper person" in the above entitled and numbered cause, who respectfully provides that:

**1.**

There is presently a Rule for Custody / Child Support / Visitation / \_\_\_\_\_, (*circle applicable ones*) scheduled for hearings as follows:

- (a). Before the Hearing Officer on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 200\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. and/or;
- (b). Before Judge \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 200\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m.

**2.**

That the Respondent seeks a continuance of the hearings for the following reasons: (*circle applicable one(s)*).

- (a). He/she was served with the Rule on \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_, and that additional time is needed to prepare and/or seek and retain counsel not necessarily limited to Legal Aid;
- (b). That he /she has a doctors appointment or other important prior engagement that can not be rescheduled without great disruption (*provide proof if available*).

**3.**

That the opposing party/counsel has/has not been contacted and does/does not have objection to the continuance of this matter (*circle that which applies*); Notwithstanding this, it is requested that this hearing be re-set on the next available hearing date(s) in order to allow mover to have meaningful "access to justice".

**Name and telephone number of opposing party or counsel:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREFORE**, the undersigned party moves this court to grant a continuance of the hearings presently scheduled above and further that this matter be re-set for the next available hearing date(s).

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (Telephone Number)

**ORDER**

**CONSIDERING** the above and foregoing Motion, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the hearings presently scheduled above, is/are hereby continued and re-set as follows:

- (a). Before the Hearing Officer on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 200\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. and/or;
- (b). Before Judge \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 200\_\_\_\_, at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m.

**OR : THE MOTION IS DENIED** and set for a hearing on \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

**THUS, READ AND SIGNED** in \_\_\_\_\_, Louisiana, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
DISTRICT JUDGE

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing pleading was served upon \_\_\_\_\_ (***name of adverse or opposing counsel***), by placing copy of the same in the U.S. mail, postage prepaid and properly addressed this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_, by me, \_\_\_\_\_ (***name of mover***).

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature of mover)