How To Guide...

Dissolution Of Marriage Without Children By Agreement

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A prove-up is when the petitioner, and/or petitioner and respondent, appear in front of a judge to finalize their divorce case. A prove-up is the final step in a divorce case and is mandatory in Illinois. The party or parties who will be attending the prove-up in their case must have certain documents in order to complete their divorce. Even though you have filed for a divorce, the court does not provide you with an automatic prove-up date. You are responsible for getting your case ready for prove up, which includes preparing the required documents. This guide will provide you with general information, forms and instructions.

WHAT TO DO

TO FINALIZE YOUR AGREED DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE WITHOUT CHILDREN



Step 1: Prepare the Required Documents



Step 2: Schedule a Prove-Up Date

There are certain documents you must prepare to finalize your divorce case. Some of these documents have already been completed and filed and some have not. You must complete all required documents so your judge can review and sign them during your final hearing (prove-up). See page 3/2 for list of required documents.

A prove-up is when you appear in front of a Judge to finalize your divorce case. When you have the required documents prepared, schedule a prove-up date either online or in-person with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County. See page 2/3 for more information about scheduling a prove-up date.



Step 3: E-Mail Documents to the Judge's Staff



Step 4: Attend Prove-Up Date to finalize your Divorce

E-mail the required documents to the court 5 days before your prove-up date. You can find e-mail addresses for your judge's courtroom on the Circuit Court of Cook County's website or by calling 312-603-3025. See pages 4 and 5 for guidelines on e-mailing documents to court.

The final step is to attend court on the scheduled date and time. All prove-ups are being done remotely, so you should use Zoom (see page 7 & 8 for Zoom instructions) to attend your prove-up. You can find the information to attend your prove-up by video or phone on the Circuit Court of Cook County's website or by calling 312-603-3025.

STEP 1: SCHEDULE A DATE FOR

PROVE-UP

WHICH OFFICE ASSISTS WITH SCHEDULING?

The Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County will schedule the prove-up. You can schedule a prove-up date online when you e-file the form called a Certification Agreement for your case. If you cannot e-file, you can schedule a prove-up date in-person if you qualify for an exemption from e-filing. You will find the Certification of Exemption from e-filing and more information about e-filing exemptions by going to www.illinoiscourts.gov/forms or at the Circuit Clerk's Office.

OPTION 1:



OPTION 2:



OPTION 3:





If you cannot e-file, take your completed Certification Agreement to the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County in the courthouse. Ask for a Certification for Exemption from E-Filing form, fill it out, and then use it to file the Certification Agreement to schedule a prove-up.



Make sure completed Certification Agreement is saved as a PDF on your computer. See page 5 for instrucitons on how to save something in PDF. Visit the Odyssey E-File Illinois website to e-file the document and schedule a prove-up date. See page # for step-bystep guide for e-filing document and scheduling a prove-up.



Illinois Court Help 833-411-2111

Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County 312-603-6300

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS



- 1. Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
- 2. Respondent's Appearance
- 3. Certification Agreement
- 4. Notice of Court Date (unless both parties are attending prove-up date)



You must complete the required sections of each document according to its instructions. Once complete, e-mail these documents to the court 5 days before your prove-up date.

- 1. Court Reporter Information Sheet FORM 2
- 2. Proposed Judgment for Dissolution of Marriage FORM 3
- 3. 28 Day Order/Order on Prove-Up FORM 4
- 4. Free Transcript Order if you have been approved for a fee waiver) FORM 5

OPTIONAL:

Proposed Marital Settlement Agreement Proposed Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO)

Remote Court Documents



How to prepare and send forms, evidence and other documents to the court for your remote court hearing

Any time you email documents to the court:



DO



Make sure everything is in order and filled out completely.



Only send documents that are saved as PDF files.



Send one email with all documents saved and attached individually.



Put your court case number in the subject line of every email.



DO



Do **NOT** send documents that are sideways or upside down.



Do **NOT** save documents in programs like Word, Pages, etc.

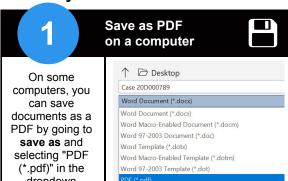


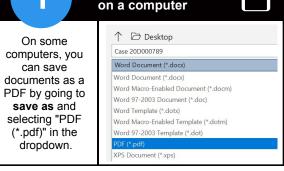
Do **NOT** attach individual pages of documents with multiple pages.



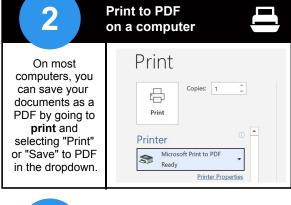
Do **NOT** take and send pictures of your documents.

Four ways to save documents as a PDF:











ASSEMBLING YOUR PROVE-UP DOCUMENTS



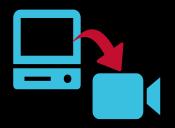
FORMAT



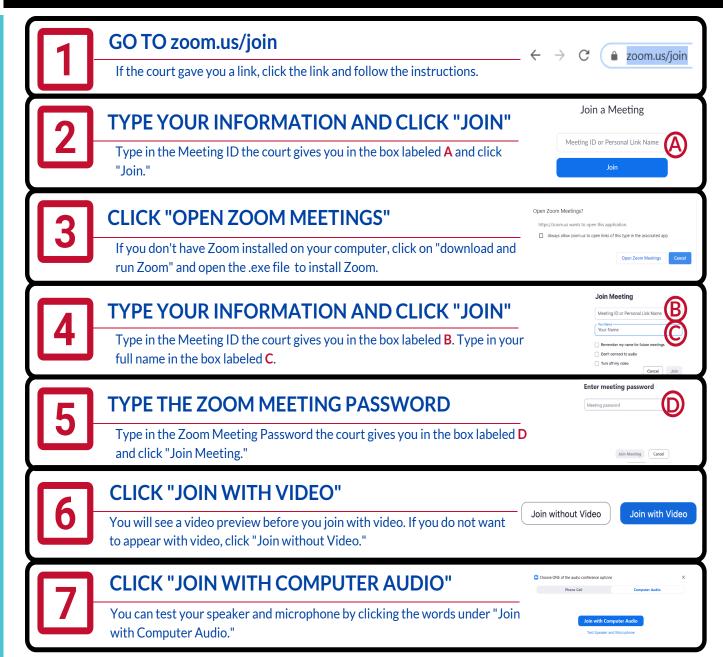


- 1. Make sure you have all of the required documents. Remember that you recently completed most of these documents, but some of them were previously completed and filed. See page 3 for list of required documents.
- 2. Scan and/or save each of the required documents separately in the pdf format. See page 6 for instructions on saving documents in the pdf format.
- 3. E-mail all required documents to the court 5 days before your scheduled prove-up date.
- 4. Appear remotely on zoom on your scheduled date and time.
- 5. During your court appearance, there will be a court reporter present who will be recording the proceeding and produce a transcript. It is your obligation to obtain a copy of the transcript from the court reporter and file the transcript with the clerk of the circuit court. This is the final step to finalize your divorce. You have up to 28 days to file the prove-up transcript. You can e-file the prove-up transcript for your case. If you cannot e-file, you can file it in-person (see information for e-filing exemptions on page 2.) For step-by-step e-filing instructions on how to e-file go to page 12 in this packet.
- * The e-mail and zoom contact list is located under the domestic relations division section at www.Cookcountycourt.Org.

ZOOM FROM YOUR COMPUTER



How to use Zoom on your computer or laptop (with a webcam) for your remote court hearing



Getting Ready for Your Remote Hearing:

- Check your internet or phone connection.
- Charge your computer or phone. Make sure you have enough minutes.
- Use earbuds or headphones if you can. This makes it easier to hear you speak.
- Look for the microphone symbol to mute and un-mute yourself.
- Keep yourself on mute when your case is not before the judge.
- Use an empty, quiet space where no one will interrupt you and with no background noise.
- Set the camera at eye level. If using a phone, prop it up so your hands are free.
- Pause before speaking in case there is audio/video lag.
- Even if you are at home, remember that a remote hearing is still an official court hearing and you should dress and behave appropriately.





ZOOM FROM YOUR PHONE

How to use Zoom on your smart phone for your remote court hearing





GO TO YOUR APP STORE

On iPhones, it is called the App Store. On Androids, it is called Google Play. If the court gave you a link, click the link and follow the instructions.

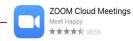




2

DOWNLOAD THE ZOOM APP

Search for the Zoom Cloud Meetings app in the search bar and download the FREE app called "ZOOM Cloud Meetings."



4

3

OPEN THE ZOOM APP

You can open the Zoom app immediately after downloading it by clicking the "Open" button in your App Store or you can open the Zoom app that is now on your phone.



4

CLICK "JOIN A MEETING"

You do not need to "Sign Up" or "Sign In" to join a meeting.

Join a Meeting

5

TYPE YOUR INFORMATION AND CLICK "JOIN"

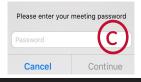
Type in the Meeting ID the court gives you in the box labeled **A**. Type in your full name in the box labeled **B**.



6

TYPE THE ZOOM MEETING PASSWORD

Type in the Zoom Meeting Password the court gives you in the box labeled **C** and click "Continue."



Join with Video

7

CLICK "JOIN WITH VIDEO"

You will be automatically asked to connect to video. If you are not asked, look for the camera symbol and click "Start Video."

To hear others please join audio

Call Over Internet

Dial in

8

CLICK "JOIN AUDIO" AND CHOOSE "CALL OVER INTERNET" OR "DIAL IN"

You will be automatically asked to connect to audio. If you are not asked, look for the headphones symbol, click "Join Audio," and select "Call Over Internet." "Dial in" requires the phone number the court gives you.



Flip for Computer Instructions and Tips

HOW TO . E-file Certification Agreement to schedule court date for agreed prove-up to finalize divorce case



You can only schedule a prove-up online if you have an e-filing account and can e-file. If you are unable to e-file, you can schedule a prove-up in-person with a **Certification for Exemption from E-Filing** in the Circuit Clerk's office at the courthouse.

GO TO E-FILING WEBSITE

Go online and visit e-filing website at www.efileil.tylertech.cloud



SIGN IN TO YOUR ACCOUNT

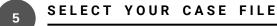


🤦 START FILING



FIND YOUR CASE







on right side of page

CLICK THROUGH TO FILINGS PAGE



ANSWER FILING QUESTIONS

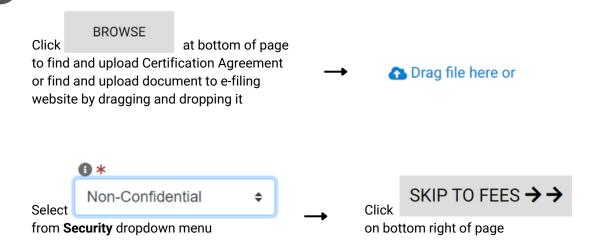




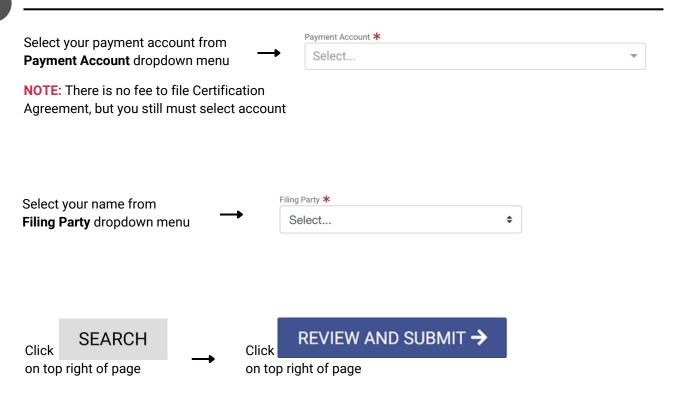
Select DR - Prove Up Hearing from Motion Type dropdown menu DR - Prove Up Hearing

DR - Prove Up Hearing

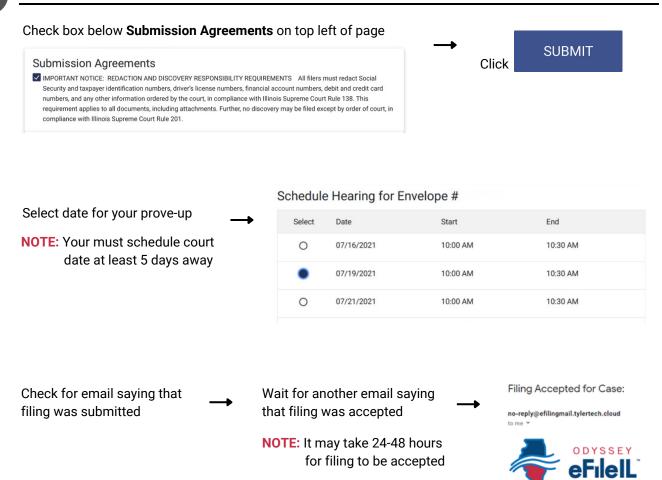
UPLOAD DOCUMENT



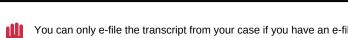
SELECT PAYMENT INFORMATION



SUBMIT FILING & SCHEDULE COURT DATE



HOW TO • E-file **court transcript** after prove-up court date to finalize divorce case



You can only e-file the transcript from your case if you have an e-filing account and can e-file. If you are unable to e-file, you can file the transcript in-person with a **Certification for Exemption from E-Filing in** the Circuit Clerk's office at the courthouse.

GO TO E-FILING WEBSITE

Go online and visit e-filing website at www.efileil.tylertech.cloud



SIGN IN TO YOUR ACCOUNT

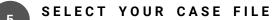


START FILING



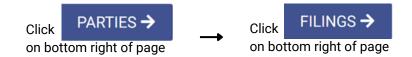
FIND YOUR CASE







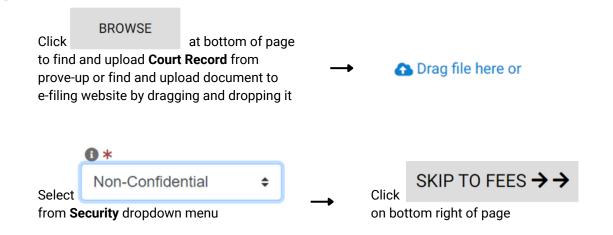
CLICK THROUGH TO FILINGS PAGE



ANSWER FILING QUESTIONS



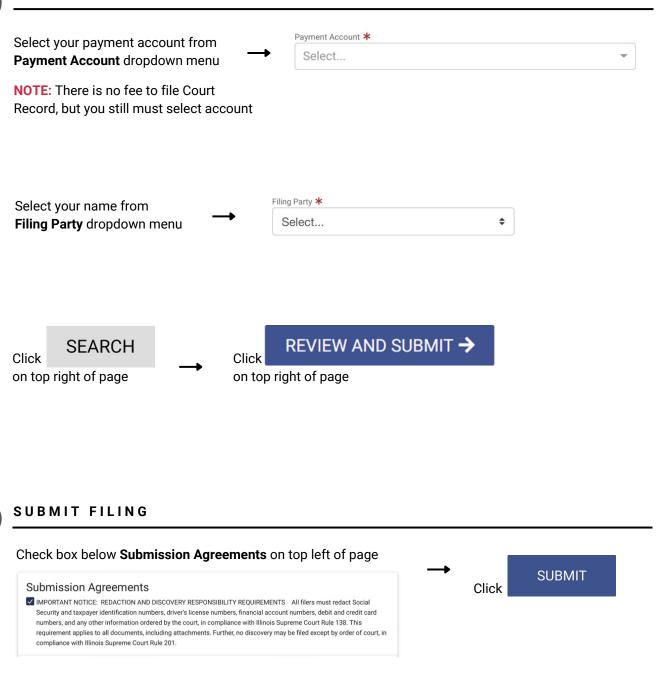
UPLOAD DOCUMENT





10

SELECT PAYMENT INFORMATION



Check for email saying that filing was submitted

Wait for another email saying that filing was accepted

NOTE: It may take 24-48 hours for filing to be accepted

Filing Accepted for Case:

no-reply@efilingmail.tylertech.cloud



This form is approved by the Illinois Supreme Court and is required to be accepted in all Illinois Circuit Courts.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, CIRCUIT COURT COUNTY		CERTIFICATION AGREEMENT (DIVORCE NO CHILDREN)	FORM 1	
Instructions ▼ Directly above, enter the county where you filed this case.	Patitioner (Fir	st, middle, last name)		
Enter the full name of Petitioner, Respondent, and the case number as listed on the Petition for Dissolution of Marriage/Civil Union	V.	First, middle, last name)	Case Number	
(Divorce No Children).	will be presen	gment of Dissolution of Marriage/ Civil Union (I ted to the judge. I agree with all of the terms in of the Judgment to show that I read each page	the Judgment. I put my initials	
	I ask the judge	e to approve and sign the Judgment.		
Both parties must sign their names in front of a notary public. DO NOT complete the notary section. The notary will complete it.	Petitioner	Respondent		
Notary Public for Petitioner State of County of				
Signed and sworn to		Signed and sworn to l	pefore me on	
Name of Petition	er	by	nt	
Seal S	ignature of Notary	 Seal	Signature of Notary	



COURT REPORTER INFORMATION SHEET

Please TYPE or clearly PRINT all information. The Court Reporter will notify you when the transcript is ready to be picked up, mailed or e-mailed.

Date of Hearing	Judge	2	
Lawyer/Litigant Name		Tele. No	
E-Mail Address			
Firm's Name			
Address		Suite #	
Title of Case			
(First)	and	(Last)	
(First)		(Last)	
Case Number	<u> </u>		
Petitioner's Address			
Respondent's Address			
Date and Place of Marriage			
Service			
Date of Separation			
Names and Ages of Children			
Former Name, if requested			
Pro se Appearance by Respondent	Yes	No	
Attorney for Respondent			
Address	Tele	e. No.	

This form is approved by the Illinois Supreme Court and is required to be accepted in all Illinois Circuit Courts.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, CIRCUIT COURT COUNTY		JUDGMENT OF DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE / CIVIL UNION (DIVORCE NO CHILDREN)	For Court Use Only	
Instructions ▼ Directly above, enter the county where you filed this case. Enter your name as Petitioner. Enter the name of	Petitioner (Fir	st, middle, last name)	Form 3	
your spouse/partner as Respondent. Enter the Case Number given by the Circuit Clerk.	Respondent (First, middle, last name)	Case Number	
DO NOT complete this section. The judge will complete it at the court date. DO NOT complete 1a and 1b. The judge will complete them at the court date. DO NOT complete 2a	Petitioner. Th all of the evid (750 ILCS 5/1 The Court mands.)	was held on the <i>Petition for Dissolution of Mar</i> e court heard the testimony of Petition ence and the relevant parts of the Illinois Mar 01 et seq.). akes the following findings of fact: in Court oner appeared: Yes No	er Respondent and considered	
and 2b. The judge will complete them at the court date. In 2c, check the box that applies to the	□ r b. Resp	epresented by Attorney: ondent appeared: Yes No epresented by Attorney:		
Respondent. If the Respondent is on active duty, you cannot get a divorce unless the Respondent files an appearance. DO NOT complete 3. The judge will complete it at the court date.	b. Resp c. Resp State	court has jurisdiction of the subject matter and ondent is in default:	er of the Armed Forces of the United Unknown	
The term "Parties" refers to the Petitioner and the Respondent. In 4a, check the box that applies to you. In 4b, check the box that applies to the Respondent.	a. Petiti the <i>F</i> b. Resp	cy Requirement oner has been living in Illinois at least 90 days retition or immediately preceding the making of condent has been living in Illinois at least 90 d retition or immediately preceding the making of	of these findings: Yes No ays immediately preceding the filing	
In 5, check whether it is a marriage or civil union. In 5a, enter the date you were In 5b, enter place the union took place. Petitioner's Initials: Respondent's Initials:	a. Pa	rties were married/united on: Date rties were married/united in: Location	Civil Union	

			Enter the Case Number	given by the Circu	ıit Clerk:		
	lr u	recono nion a	ds for Dissolution cilable differences have caused and efforts at reconciliation have acticable and not in the best in	e failed or future	e attempts at		•
DO NOT complete section 8a. The judge will complete it at the court date. In 8b, enter the address of the real estate. In 8c, check the box that applies. If you have a legal description of the real estate, attach it to this Judgment. In 8d, check yes if either of you owned real estate before you were married/united. Complete and attach the Non-Marital Real Estate form. DO NOT complete sections 9a and 9b. The judge will complete them at the court date.	9. N a b	eal Es Par The Stre A le Plainte I ha		City te is attached to erest in non-mate on the attached to be expoused sup. Neither pa	o this Judgm orital real ned Non-Man	State State ent: Yes ital Real Estate support:	ZIP No e form.
In B , DO NOT check any boxes. The judge will check boxes at the court date.	İ	Debts a Eac	and Liabilities ch party will be responsible for ch party will be responsible for art below) ese debts shall be paid by the	all of the debts	in their own		
Chart: DO fill in the name of creditor and amount owed for debts after the date of		1.	Debt (Name of Creditor)	Amount Owed	To be paid Petitioner	by: Respondent	Both Equally
marriage/civil union in		2.		\$			
the chart DO NOT		<u> </u>		<u>*</u>			

3. check who is to pay \$ the debt. 5. \$ If you need more room to list debts \$ 6. check "Yes." \$ Complete and attach the Additional Debts & Liabilities form.

Petitioner's Initials:
Respondent's Initials:

Parties shall indemnify and hold the other party harmless for the debts they are assigned.

			Enter the Case Number g	iven by the Circuit Clerk:		
DO NOT complete C. The judge will complete it at the court date.	C.	Each party is a Petitioner is a Respondent's Respondent is Petitioner's pe	warded pension/retirement a s awarded ension/retirement acco	ccounts. <u>%</u> of the marital/	civil union po civil union po omestic Rela	ortion of
DO NOT complete D. The judge will complete it at the court date.	D.	Petitioner other party \$	Respondent	rest in real estate obtained during is awarded the marital real for his/her interest in the real	estate and s	
		The net proce Petitioner to re	eds of the sale (sale peceiveal real estate is sold,	orice minus costs of sale) sha Mespondent to rece mortgage payments will be plent Ment	eive	%
		_	al real estate is sold, %	insurance will be paid by lent % cost of maintenance will be plent %		
		and state tax	purposes.	is entitled to claim mortgag		
			Respondent her party from the obl		the real esta	ite to
			other party by:	<i>Date</i> shall sign a quitclaim deed	transferring	his/her
		Other orders:	Date			
In E, DO NOT check any boxes. The judge will check boxes at the court date.	E.	Parties shall k	· · · · · · · ·	ts bank accounts in his/her ow ivil union shall be divided as	-	ossession.
Chart: DO list the		Personal Pro	perty and Bank Acc	ounts	Property g	oes to:
personal property obtained during the		(Be specific in y	our description of each	piece of property)	Petitioner	Respondent
marriage/civil union in		1.				
the chart. DO NOT check who gets the		2.				
property.		3.				
		4.				
		5.				
		6. 7.				
Petitioner's Initials:		[] .				

Respondent's Initials:

	Enter the Case Number given by the Circuit Clerk:
If you need more room to list property check "Yes." Complete and attach the Additional Personal Property & Bank Accounts form.	There is an <i>Additional Personal Property & Bank Accounts</i> form attached: Yes No Any personal property exchange required by this order shall take place within 30 days of the date of this <i>Judgment</i> . Other orders:
DO NOT complete F. The judge will complete it at the court date.	F. Maintenance/Spousal Support Parties are forever barred from claiming maintenance/spousal support from the other. Petitioner shall pay to Respondent maintenance/spousal support in the amount of per for the following period: after which maintenance/spousal support shall be barred or Respondent shall pay to Petitioner maintenance/spousal support in the amount of per for the following period: after which maintenance/spousal support shall be barred or
In G, if you or the Respondent want to go back to a former name, check the box	G. Former Name Petitioner is permitted to resume using the former last name of:
and enter the former last name.	Former Last Name Respondent is permitted to resume using the former last name of: Former Last Name
DO NOT complete H. The judge will complete it at the court date.	H. Other Relief None Relief as follows:
Petitioner's Initials: Respondent's Initials:	I. This court reserves jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter for purposes of enforcing this <i>Judgment</i> .
DO NOT complete this section. The judge will sign and date here.	ENTERED:
	Judge Date

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION

0.1.0.0.001.1	COUNTI DEPARTMENT, DOM		
IN RETH	E MARRIAGE/CIVIL UNION OF:	Form 4	
	E MARRIAGE/CIVIL UNION OF: Petitioner Counter-Respondent and	No	
	and		
		Calendar	
	☐ Respondent ☐ Counter-Petitioner		
	ORDER ON	PROVE UP	
tion □ Co □ Respon	natter coming on to be heard for (check one) uncon ounter-Petition for Dissolution of Marriage/Civil Unic dent Child Representative/Guardian Ad Litem I I ent and the Court being fully advised in the premises,	on, (check all that apply) 🗖 Petiti Petitioner's Attorney 🗖 Responde	oner
fo 4566	he (check one) Petitioner Respondent shall, with allowing (check all that apply): Transcript of Prove Up Proceedings Judgment for Dissolution of Marriage/Civil Union Settlement Agreement signed by both parties Parenting Plan signed by Petitioner Responder Family Support Affidavit Uniform Order of Support Order for Withholding Qualified Domestic Relations Order Qualified Illinois Domestic Relations Order Parenting Education Requirement (check all that Both parties Petitioner Respondent has/have Petitioner Respondent is in Default Both parties Petitioner Respondent is/are of in class online parenting education program with Parenting education is not required because the parenting education requirement is waived due to	ent	ntion requirement. ed (check one) ogether.
	The transcript of the proceedings is waived.		
pı	This matter is set for status on resentation of the aforesaid documents and/or comple		a.m./p.m. for
Atty. No	.:		
		CATTERED	
Atty. for:	☐ Petitioner ☐ Respondent	ENTERED:	
Address:		Dated:	,,
	e/Zip Code:		
Telephon	e:	Iudge	Judge's No.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION

IN RE: ☐ Marriage ☐ Civil Union ☐ Legal Separat ☐ Visitation (Non-Parent) ☐ Support ☐ Pare	entage of:	
	Case No Calendar	
Petitioner	Case No.	
and	Calendar	
Respondent		
	EE TRANSCRIPT	
THIS CAUSE having come before this Court for a proceed documented by an official court reporter; this Court having pursuant to Supreme Court Rule 298 and 735 ILCS 5/5-1 circumstances of the party seeking a waiver have not chan commence, prosecute, defend, or enforce relief in this civil WHEREFORE, it is hereby ordered that the Clerk of the	ng previously entered an Order for Wi 05 or 735 ILCS 5/5-105.5 hereby fin- aged and that the production of a tran il action.	aiver of Court Fees ds that the financial nscript is necessary to
associated with the production of this transcript and the c		± • •
Office within days.		
○ Atty. No.: ○ Pro Se 99500	ENTERED:	
Name:	Dated:	
Atty. for (if applicable):		
Address:	Judge	Judge's No.
City:		
State: Zip:		
Telephone:		
Primary Email:		