

**IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FRANKLIN COUNTY, OHIO
DIVISION OF DOMESTIC RELATIONS AND JUVENILE BRANCH**

Plaintiff/Petitioner

Case Number _____

Judge _____

Defendant/Respondent

Magistrate _____

RULE 4.7 WAIVER OF THE SERVICE OF SUMMONS.

To: _____
Name of Plaintiff's Attorney/Plaintiff

I have received your request to waive service of a summons in this action along with a copy of the complaint, two copies of this waiver form, and a prepaid means of returning one signed copy of the form to you. I, or the entity I represent, agree to save the expense of serving a summons and complaint in this case.

I understand that I, or the entity I represent, will keep all defenses or objections to: (1) the lawsuit, (2) the court's jurisdiction, and (3) the venue of the action. I further understand that I, or the entity that I represent, waive any objections to the absence of a summons or of service. I also understand that I, or the entity I represent, must file and serve an answer or a motion under Rule 12 within 60 days from, the date when this request was sent (or 90 days if it was sent outside the United States). If I fail to do so, a default judgment could be entered against me or the entity I represent.

Signature of the Defendant/Respondent Date

Printed name

Address

E-mail address

Telephone number

DUTY TO AVOID UNNECESSARY EXPENSES OF SERVING A SUMMONS

Rule 4.7 of the Ohio Rules of Civil Procedure requires certain defendants to cooperate in saving unnecessary expenses of serving a summons and complaint. A defendant who is subject to the court's personal jurisdiction and who fails to return a signed waiver of service requested by a plaintiff may be required to pay the expenses of service, unless the defendant shows good cause for the failure.

"Good cause" does not include a belief that the lawsuit is groundless, or that it has been brought in an improper venue, or that the court has no jurisdiction over this matter or over the defendant or the defendant's property.

If the waiver is signed and returned, you can still make these and all other defenses and objections, but you cannot object to the absence of a summons or of service.

If you waive service, then you must, within the time specified on the waiver form, serve an answer or a motion under Rule 12 on the plaintiff and file a copy with the court. By signing and returning the waiver form, you are allowed more time to respond than if a summons had been served.