

Joint Summary Dissolution – Mendocino County

In some cases, you may be able to file for divorce in a simpler way called a Joint Summary Dissolution.

To qualify, you and your spouse must:

- Have been married for less than 5 years (from date of marriage to date of separation)
- Have no children together
- Not want spousal support from each other
- Not own a house, buildings, or land
- Not rent a house or land other than where you live (and not have a 1-year lease or option to buy your rental)
- Owe less than \$6,000 in debts since you got married (don't count car loans)
- Have less than \$47,000 in property from before you got married or from gifts or inheritance (don't count cars)
- Have less than \$47,000 in property from during the marriage (don't count cars)
- Have an agreement to divide your property and debt
- Sign the petition (the divorce request) together
- Read *Summary Dissolution Booklet* ([FL-810](#))

If you qualify, fill out:

- *Joint Petition* ([FL-800](#)). Both of you sign this. Make 2 copies.
- *Judgment of Dissolution and Notice of Entry* ([FL-825](#)). Make 2 copies.
- A property agreement, if you have things to divide. See pages 12-15 of the *Summary Dissolution Booklet* ([FL-810](#)) for help or use this [online fillable divorce agreement](#). Make 2 copies.
- Fee waiver forms if you're low income and want to ask the court to waive the \$435 filing fee you each have to pay. You must each fill out your own fee waiver. For the fee waiver, each of you fills out all of [FW-001](#), and #1 and case name on [FW-003](#). Make 1 copy.

You both also must fill out financial disclosures and share them with each other. You do not have to file them with the court.

To do your financial disclosures:

- Fill out the worksheets on pages 7, 9, and 11 of the *Summary Dissolution Booklet* ([FL-810](#)).
- Or
- Fill out: *Income & Expense Declaration* ([FL-150](#)) and *Schedule of Assets and Debts* ([FL-142](#))
- Include last 2 years of tax returns and any investment, business, or other opportunity you've had since separating that came up while you were married.

Turn in all the forms and copies in with 2 self-addressed stamped envelopes, one addressed to you and one to your spouse. Wait 6 months.

Need Help?

- More info at <https://selfhelp.courts.ca.gov/divorce-california/summary-dissolution/qualifications>
- Get help from the [Self-Help Center](#)
- Talk to a lawyer.