

JACKSON COUNTY FRIEND OF THE COURT PARENTING TIME ENFORCEMENT GUIDELINES

The Friend of the Court will enforce parenting time complaints that interfere with the parenting time access to the child in the following circumstances:

1. Alleged violations of court ordered parenting time schedules (i.e., including “reasonable parenting time consistent with the FOC handbook”)
2. Alleged violations of court ordered telephone or electronic contact schedules
3. Alleged violations of court ordered transportation schedules
4. Alleged violations of court orders that prohibit drinking, smoking, and/or drug usage
5. Failure to pay court-ordered transportation costs
6. Failure to obey order that gives parent “first right of refusal”
7. Violation of “change of domicile” provision that disrupts parenting time
8. Violation of order requiring a parent to provide the child’s travel itinerary
9. Any court-ordered provision that specifically states that the Friend of the Court must enforce that provision

The Friend of the Court cannot assist you with the enforcement of the following items .***

1. Abuse and/or neglect [NOTE: Call MDHHS - Children’s Protection Services at 855-444-3911 to report.]
2. Complaint alleging parenting time denial for incident that occurred more than 56 days ago (8 weeks)
3. Complaint where you failed to make physical attempt to pick up child(ren)
4. Drinking, smoking, or drug usage, but no court order exists that establishes past history and prohibits future usage
[NOTE: If a party believes the behavior constitutes abuse and/or neglect, they must call MDHHS - Children’s Protection Services at 855-444-3911.]
5. Horror films, R-rated movies, and/or video games
6. Order with no specific parenting time schedule [NOTE: See “mediation” section below.]
7. Order with flexible/non-specific parenting time schedule [NOTE: See “mediation” section below.]
8. Parental kidnappings [NOTE: Kidnappings should be reported to police.]
9. PT Guideline violations (i.e., NCP cut child’s hair, clothing or medication not provided or returned, frequent arguing at parenting time exchanges, problems with new girlfriends, boyfriends, or spouses, etc.)
10. Telephone or electronic contact denial, but no order exists allowing telephone contacts

*** While the Friend of the Court cannot assist you with the enforcement of these issues, either party may file a motion with the Court if they wish to have the Court address them.

HOW TO CHANGE PARENTING TIME

Over time, your parenting time schedule may need to change. If your parenting time order needs to be changed, there are a few different options available to help you do so.

Agreement Between the Parties - You and the other parent agree that a change is necessary, and have already outlined the changes you wish to make. You may submit an agreement regarding parenting time at the FOC office.

Mediation - You and the other party agree that changes need to be made, but have not come to an agreement on the changes or would like an opportunity to meet with a neutral third party to discuss ongoing issues regarding your parenting time. You may file a joint request for mediation at the FOC office.

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Filing a Motion - You and the other parent are not in agreement to change your parenting time order. You may file on your own or through the services of an attorney. Motions are filed at the Jackson County Clerk's Office.

See "Modification of a Parenting Time Order" in the FOC handbook for more information.

Forms are available at the Friend of the Court office and online at
www.jacksoncountyfoc.com .