

## MAINE JUDICIAL BRANCH

### FOREIGN JUDGMENTS REGARDING CUSTODY, SUPPORT, OR PROTECTION: What to do with these Court Forms

#### Here are a few tips for filling out the forms:

- Always use full legal names, not nicknames.
- Type or print neatly.
  - Fillable versions of the forms are available on our website at:  
[http://www.courts.maine.gov/fees\\_forms/forms](http://www.courts.maine.gov/fees_forms/forms).
- You will file each form with the Court. Before you do that, make copies of your completed forms — one for yourself and one copy for each of the other parties. You will need to find a place to make copies (like a library). The court clerk cannot make copies for you.

#### **UNIFORM CHILD CUSTODY AND JURISDICTION ENFORCEMENT ACT (UCCJEA) REGISTRATION: CUSTODY ORDERS**

The Uniform Child Custody and Jurisdiction Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) may be used to register a **custody** judgment or order from another state or country.

#### **If you wish to register a judgment or order under the UCCJEA, you will need to file:**

- **Family and Probate Matter Summary Sheet (FM-002);**
- **Affidavit and Request to Register a Foreign Child Custody Order Under the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) (FM-283);**
- **Social Security Number Confidential Disclosure Form (CR-CV-FM-PC-200); and**
- **One certified copy and one plain copy of the foreign custody judgment or order (as well as an English translation by a certified translator if the foreign order was issued in a language other than English).**

The clerk will complete a Notice of Registration and send it to the parties. The Notice of Registration advises the responding party of the right to ask for a hearing to challenge the registration within 20 days of service of the registration paperwork. If the responding party asks for a hearing within the allowed time, the clerk will schedule a hearing and will notify the parties. If no hearing is requested within the allowed time, the clerk will send a Notice of Confirmation to the parties. “Confirmation” means the registration process is complete, and the responding party cannot challenge the validity of the order or its enforcement.

If all you want is for the court to register your foreign custody order, you do not need to do anything else. If you want to do something else, such as enforce or modify the order, you will need to file and serve a motion and pay a filing fee (for example, FM-062, *Motion to Modify*; FM-070, *Motion to Enforce*; and FM-068, *Motion for Contempt*).

**ADA Notice:** The Maine Judicial Branch complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need a reasonable accommodation, contact the Court Access Coordinator, [accessibility@courts.maine.gov](mailto:accessibility@courts.maine.gov), or a court clerk.

**Language Services:** For language assistance and interpreters, contact a court clerk or [interpreters@courts.maine.gov](mailto:interpreters@courts.maine.gov).

## MAINE JUDICIAL BRANCH

### **UNIFORM CHILD CUSTODY AND JURISDICTION ENFORCEMENT ACT (UCCJEA): EXPEDITED ENFORCEMENT OF FOREIGN CUSTODY ORDERS**

The UCCJEA includes an expedited process for enforcing a foreign custody order.

**If you want to ask for expedited enforcement of the foreign custody order, you will need to first file a request to register the foreign order under the UCCJEA with all the documents listed in the section above, and then also file:**

- **Petition for Expedited Enforcement of Child Custody Determination (FM-008); and**
- **A Verified Application for Issuance of a Warrant (FM-181) if your child is immediately likely to suffer serious physical harm or be removed from the State of Maine.**

After the court reviews your petition, the court will issue an order that tells the responding party to come to court in person for a hearing. The court may also order the responding party to bring the child to the hearing and may enter any order necessary to ensure the safety of the parties and child.

The petition, warrant (if one is issued), and order must be served on the other party. The court will arrange for a law enforcement agency to do this.

### **UNIFORM INTERSTATE FAMILY SUPPORT ACT (UIFSA): SUPPORT ORDERS**

The Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) may be used to register **paternity, child support, or spousal support** judgments or orders from another state or country.

Most UIFSA matters can be processed administratively at the Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). If you want help from DHHS with this case, please contact DHHS Department of Support Enforcement & Recovery at (207) 624-4100 or <https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/programs-services/child-support-services>.

**If you are filing this action without help from DHHS, you will need to file the following documents:**

- **Family and Probate Matter Summary Sheet (FM-002);**
- **Affidavit and Request to Register a Foreign Child Custody Order Under the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) (FM-284);**
- **Social Security Number Confidential Disclosure Form (CR-CV-FM-PC-200);**
- **UIFSA Social Security Number Confidential Disclosure Form (FM-285) (*if you know the information on the form*); and**
- **One certified copy and one plain copy of the foreign custody judgment or order (as well as an English translation by a certified translator if the foreign order was issued in a language other than English).**

**ADA Notice:** The Maine Judicial Branch complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need a reasonable accommodation, contact the Court Access Coordinator, [accessibility@courts.maine.gov](mailto:accessibility@courts.maine.gov), or a court clerk.

**Language Services:** For language assistance and interpreters, contact a court clerk or [interpreters@courts.maine.gov](mailto:interpreters@courts.maine.gov).

**PLEASE NOTE:** There are additional documents that you must file if you are registering an order from a foreign country that is a member of the Hague Convention. To learn more, please read page 2 of court form FM-284, *Affidavit and Request to Register Foreign Support Order Under UIFSA*.

The clerk will complete a Notice of Registration and send it to the parties. The Notice of Registration advises the responding party of the right to ask for a hearing to challenge the registration within a specified number of days after notice of the registration paperwork. If the responding party asks for a hearing within the allowed time, the clerk will schedule a hearing and will notify the parties. If no hearing is requested within the allowed time, the clerk will send a Notice of Confirmation to the parties. "Confirmation" means the registration process is complete, and the responding party cannot challenge the validity of the order or its enforcement.

If all you want is for the court to register your foreign support order, you do not need to do anything else. But if you want to do something else, such as enforce or modify the order, you will need to file and serve a motion and pay a filing fee (for example, FM-062, *Motion to Modify*; FM-070, *Motion to Enforce*; and FM-068, *Motion for Contempt*).

**UNIFORM ENFORCEMENT OF FOREIGN JUDGMENTS ACT (UEFJA) REGISTRATION:  
PROTECTION ORDERS**

A foreign judgment is a judgment or order entered by a court in another state or country. The Uniform Enforcement of Foreign Judgments Act (UEFJA) can be used for registering a **protection** order.

**If you wish to register a judgment or order under the UEFJA, you will need to file:**

- **Family and Probate Matter Summary Sheet (FM-002);**
- **Affidavit and Request to Register a Foreign Protection Order Under the Uniform Enforcement of Foreign Judgments Act (UEFJA) (PA-033); and**
- **One copy of the foreign protection order (as well as an English translation by a certified translator if the foreign order was issued in a language other than English).**

The clerk will complete a Notice of Confirmation of Registration and mail it to you (and to law enforcement if the order is not already in the database of the National Crime Information Center).

**ADA Notice:** The Maine Judicial Branch complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need a reasonable accommodation, contact the Court Access Coordinator, [accessibility@courts.maine.gov](mailto:accessibility@courts.maine.gov), or a court clerk.

**Language Services:** For language assistance and interpreters, contact a court clerk or [interpreters@courts.maine.gov](mailto:interpreters@courts.maine.gov).

**HELPFUL RESOURCES**

**A Guide to Family Separation in Maine:** This guide will help you better understand the court process in family law cases such as divorce and parental rights and responsibilities (PR&R) cases. PR&R cases involve parties who have a child but are not married. You can get a copy of this guide at the court or access it online [www.courts.maine.gov](http://www.courts.maine.gov).

**Maine Judicial Branch website:** The Families and Children page of the website includes information on many different types of family cases. Please visit that page for information on what to expect from the court process and issues that may come up in your case.

**Mediation:** A mediator may be able to help you and the other party or parties reach an agreement on issues relating to your case. Mediation can be arranged through the court or a private mediator.

**Parent education:** A parent education program specifically designed for divorcing or separating parents may help you focus on the needs of your children. The court may order you to attend one of these programs.

**Child Support Table:** These guidelines, by law, are issued by DHHS and are used to help determine child support obligations according to income. This table is available online at: [http://www.courts.maine.gov/fees\\_forms/forms/](http://www.courts.maine.gov/fees_forms/forms/) or from any District Court clerk's office.

For more information about these resources, speak with the court clerk or visit the Maine Judicial Branch website at: [www.courts.maine.gov](http://www.courts.maine.gov).

**ADA Notice:** The Maine Judicial Branch complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need a reasonable accommodation, contact the Court Access Coordinator, [accessibility@courts.maine.gov](mailto:accessibility@courts.maine.gov), or a court clerk.

**Language Services:** For language assistance and interpreters, contact a court clerk or [interpreters@courts.maine.gov](mailto:interpreters@courts.maine.gov).