

MAINE JUDICIAL BRANCH

FOREIGN JUDGMENTS: 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.
- 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 ENFORCEMENT OF FOREIGN JUDGMENTS ACT (UEFJA) REGISTRATION

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 any type of foreign judgment or order.

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

- **FM summary sheet (FM-002);**
- **Affidavit and Request for Registration of a Foreign Order (FM-058); and**
- **One certified copy of the foreign judgment.**

The clerk will complete a Notice of Registration and mail it to the parties and the police department if the judgment is a Protection Order.

If you want the court to do something in addition to registering the judgment, you will also need to file a motion and pay a filing fee.

UNIFORM CHILD CUSTODY AND JURISDICTION ENFORCEMENT ACT (UCCJEA) REGISTRATION

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

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

- **FM summary sheet (FM-002);**
- **Affidavit and Request for Registration of a Foreign Order (FM-058); and**
- **One certified copy and one plain copy of the foreign judgment or order.**

The clerk will complete a Notice of Registration and mail it to the parties. The Notice of Registration advises the responding party of the right to request a hearing on the registration within 20 days. If the responding party makes a timely request the clerk will schedule a hearing and will notify the parties. If no hearing is requested within 20 days, the clerk sends a Notice of Confirmation to the parties. This means the registration process is complete.

You need not do anything further unless you would like the court to take further action, in which case you will need to file a motion and pay a filing fee.

UNIFORM CHILD CUSTODY AND JURISDICTION ENFORCEMENT ACT (UCCJEA) - EXPEDITED ENFORCEMENT

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

If this is the type of action you wish to start, you will need to file:

- **FM summary sheet (FM-002);**
- **Petition for Expedited Enforcement of Child Custody Determination (FM-008)**

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, or a court clerk.

Language Services: For language assistance and interpreters, contact a court clerk or interpreters@courts.maine.gov.

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You may also want to file a Verified Application for Issuance of a Warrant (FM-181).

If the judge determines the petition and application meet the requirements of the UCCJEA, an *ex parte* hearing will be scheduled on the same day you file the petition, if possible. Following the hearing, the judge may issue a warrant or an order directing the other party to appear at a later hearing. The order will state the date and time of the hearing.

The petition, warrant (if one is issued), and order must be served on the other party. A law enforcement agency will do this. The court clerk can assist you in communicating with law enforcement.

UNIFORM INTERSTATE FAMILY SUPPORT ACT (UIFSA)

The Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) is used to govern interstate paternity and child support proceedings.

Most UIFSA matters can be processed administratively at the Maine Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). If the matter cannot be handled by DHHS, a UIFSA Petition or a Request for Registration of a Foreign Order, along with accompanying paperwork, must be filed with the appropriate court.

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.

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/ 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.

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