

WAIVER OF SERVICE OF SUMMONS

TO: _____
(Name of Plaintiff's attorney or unrepresented Plaintiff)

I, _____ acknowledge receipt of your Request
(Name of Defendant)

that I waive service of Summons in _____
(Style of Civil Action)

which is Case Number _____ in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi. I have also received a copy of the Complaint in this action, two copies of this Waiver, and a means for returning the signed Waiver to you without cost to me.

I agree to save the cost of service of a Summons and an additional copy of the Complaint in this civil action by not requiring that I, or the entity on whose behalf I am acting, be served with judicial process in the manner provided by Rule 4 of the FEDERAL RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE.

I, or the entity on whose behalf I am acting, will retain all defenses or objections to the lawsuit or to the jurisdiction or venue of the court except for objections based on a defect in the Summons or in the service of the Summons.

I understand that a judgment may be entered against me or the entity on whose behalf I am acting if an Answer or motion under Rule 12 of the FEDERAL RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE is not served upon you within 60 days after _____ (date request was sent) or within 90 days after that date if the request was sent outside the United States.

Date

Signature

Printed or typewritten name

as _____ of _____
(Title or other relationship to corporate defendant) (Name of corporate defendant, if any)

DUTY TO AVOID UNNECESSARY COSTS OF SERVICE OF SUMMONS

Rule 4 of the FEDERAL RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE requires certain parties to cooperate in saving unnecessary costs of service of the Summons and Complaint. A defendant located in the United States who, after being notified of a civil action [lawsuit] and asked by the Plaintiff located in the United States to waive service of Summons, fails to do so will be ordered to bear the cost of such service unless good cause be shown for its failure to sign and return the Waiver.

It is not good cause for a failure to waive service that a party believes that the Complaint is unfounded, or that the civil action has been brought in an improper place or in a court that lacks jurisdiction over the subject matter of the suit or over its person or property. A party who waives service of the Summons retains all defenses and objections (except any relating to the Summons or to the service of the Summons), and may later object to the jurisdiction of the court or to the place where the civil action has been brought.

A defendant who waives service must within the time specified on the Waiver form serve on the Plaintiff's lawyer, or the unrepresented Plaintiff, a written response—either an Answer or a motion—to the Complaint and must also file a signed copy of that response with the Court. If the Answer or motion is not served within this time, a default judgment may be taken against that Defendant. By waiving service, a Defendant is allowed more time to answer than if the Summons had been actually served when the request for Waiver of Service was received.