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Judicial District:	_____
Court File Number:	_____
Case Type:	_____

Petitioner

**Statement of Rights**  
**vs. First Court Appearance**  
**on Paternity Proceedings**

Respondent

1. I understand I am in Court because it is alleged that I am the biological father of \_\_\_\_\_.
  
2. I have received a copy of the complaint.
  
3. I understand:
  - a. I can be required to submit to blood or genetic testing to determine the percentage of likelihood that I am the father. I can be required to pay for all or part of the cost of testing if I am found by the Court to be the father. The results of any testing to determine my likelihood of paternity can be used in evidence at the trial.
  - b. I have the right to be represented by an attorney.
  - c. An attorney will be appointed to represent me if I cannot afford one.
  - d. I have a right to a trial by a judge or by a jury of six persons.
  - e. I am entitled to know in advance the evidence that will be used to try to establish my paternity.
  - f. I may question and cross-examine any witnesses called by the county to testify.
  - g. I may subpoena witnesses to come to Court to testify on my behalf.
  - h. I may be compelled to testify.
  - i. I will be allowed to call witnesses, to present evidence, and to explain why I do not think I am the father.
  
4. I also understand if I admit I am the father, or am found after trial to be the biological father of the above-named child:
  - a. I will be required to pay child support in an amount determined by the Court if someone other than myself has physical custody of the child.
  - b. If child support is ordered, and if I fail to pay the child support, I may be found in contempt of Court, or I may be charged with a crime.
  - c. Unpaid child support becomes a judgment against me by operation of law.
  
5. I wish to:
  - waive (give up) my right to have an attorney.

**If either of the boxes below are checked, skip 6 and 7 but date and sign this form.**

- request a continuance to speak to my own attorney.
- request a court-appointed attorney, and have completed a form regarding my income, property, and expenses.

6. I wish to:

- waive (give up) my right to defend this action and admit that I am the father of the above-named child.
- agree to legal custody of the child with the mother.
- agree to physical custody of the child with the mother.
- request visitation to be determined by the Court.
- claim custody or joint custody of the child.
- enter a denial of the complaint and proceed to trial.

7. I wish to:

- request a jury trial.       waive (give up) the right to a jury trial.

Dated:

Your Attorney:

Street Address:

City/State/Zip:

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_)

Signature

Your Name:

Street Address:

City/State/Zip:

Telephone: (\_\_\_\_)

Date of Birth