

SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANT MOTION & ORDER FOR CONTINUANCE

This form is intended for litigants who:

- v' Have a hearing or other matter set before the court, commissioner and/or a hearing officer and wish to have that matter continued until a future date.

Information you will need:

1. The docket number of the case for which you are requesting a continuance.
2. The date and location of your currently scheduled hearing.
3. Evidence (if possible) in support of your request for a continuance.
4. The exact name and address of the opposing party or the opposing party's counsel.

Instructions:

These instructions are meant to guide you through the process of requesting a continuance. **Note that courts take scheduled dates seriously, and a continuance should be asked for only as a last option. Filing a Motion for Continuance does not automatically mean you will be granted a continuance. If the court does not grant it, the case will move forward according to the already scheduled date. Motions to Continue hearing officer conferences are discouraged.** (24th JDC Rule 24.1 B(5)) If the Motion for Continuance is contested by the opposing party, you should ask for a hearing so that you can explain to the court in person why the motion should be granted.

This packet of forms is not legal advice and cannot take the place of the advice that a lawyer can give you. It is always best to speak with a lawyer before taking any legal action. **When you represent yourself in court, you must follow all the proper procedures and the law. It is your responsibility to see your case through the whole process.**

1. Be sure you have the correct form.
2. Read all instructions before you begin.
3. Fill in the blanks with 100% accurate information- *any false statement made in court or written in a court document may constitute perjury.*
4. Check all options that pertain to your situation.
5. Attach any supporting documentation (i.e. a doctor's note) related to your request.
6. If you have trouble reading, writing, or understanding what is in this motion, seek help at

(Petitioner)

ORLEANS CIVIL DISTRICT COURT

VERSUS

DOCKET NUMBER: _____

(Defendant)

ORLEANS PARISH, LOUISIANA

FILED: _____

DEPUTY CLERK _____

MOTION AND ORDER FOR CONTINUANCE

NOW INTO COURT, comes _____, the Plaintiff/Defendant, appearing in "proper person" in the above entitled and numbered cause, who respectfully provides that:

1.

There is presently a Rule for Custody / Child Support / Visitation /other pleading, **(circle applicable ones)** scheduled for hearings as follows:

Before the Hearing Officer *(if applicable)* _____ on the ____ day of _____ (month), 20____, at _____ a.m./p.m.

and/or (circle one)

Before the Commissioner *(if applicable)* _____ on the ____ day of _____ (month), 20____, at _____ a.m./p.m.

and/or (circle one)

Before Judge _____ on the ____ day of _____ (month), 20____, at _____ a.m./p.m.

2.

That the Plaintiff/Defendant seeks a continuance of the hearing(s) for the following reasons: **(circle applicable one(s))**.

- (a). He/she was served with the Rule on ___/___/____, and that additional time is needed to prepare and/or seek and retain counsel not necessarily limited to Legal Aid;
- (b). That he /she has a doctors appointment or other important prior engagement that cannot be rescheduled without great disruption **(provide proof if available)**; and/or

(c). Other (***please explain***)

3.

That the opposing party/counsel has/has not been contacted and does/does not have objection to the continuance of this matter (***circle that which applies***); Notwithstanding this, it is requested that this hearing be re-set on the next available hearing date(s) in order to allow mover to have meaningful "access to justice".

The name and telephone number of opposing party or counsel is as follows:

_____ (Name)
_____ (Address)
_____ (City, State, Zip)
_____ (Telephone Number)

WHEREFORE, the undersigned party moves this court to grant a continuance of the hearing(s) presently scheduled above and further that this matter be re-set for the next available hearing date(s).

_____ (**Signature of mover**)
_____ (**Address**)

_____ (**Telephone Number**)

ORDER

CONSIDERING the above and foregoing Motion, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the hearing(s) presently scheduled above, is/are hereby continued and re-set as follows:

Before the Hearing Officer (*if applicable*) _____ on the _____ day
of _____, 20____, at _____ a.m./p.m.

and/or (***circle one***)
Before the Commissioner (*if applicable*) _____ on the _____ day
of _____, 20____, at _____ a.m./p.m.

and/or (circle one)
Before Judge (if applicable) _____ on the _____ day
of _____, 20____, at _____ a.m./p.m.

OR: THE MOTION IS DENIED and set for a hearing on ____ day of _____, 20____.

THUS, READ AND SIGNED in _____, Louisiana, this ____ day of _____, 20____.

DISTRICT JUDGE/COMMISSIONER

APPROVED:

HEARING OFFICER

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the above and foregoing pleading was served upon _____ **(name of adverse or opposing counsel)**, by placing a copy of the same in the U.S. mail, postage prepaid and properly addressed this ____ day of _____, 20____, by me, _____ **(name of mover)**.

(signature of mover)