

**COMPLAINT FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING CONSENT TO AN ABORTION  
WITHOUT NOTIFICATION OF A PARENT, GUARDIAN,  
OR CUSTODIAN (R.C. 2151.85)**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

If you are pregnant; unmarried, under 18 years old, and unemancipated; and want to have an abortion without telling your parent, guardian, or custodian, you may ask a juvenile court for permission. The court will then decide whether your parent, guardian, or custodian must be told before you may have an abortion. The attached form, called a complaint, should be used to ask a court to let you have an abortion without telling your parent, guardian, or custodian.

If you are under 18 and not married, you are “unemancipated” if any of the following apply:

1. You have not entered the armed services of the United States;
2. You do not have a job and support yourself;
3. You are under the care and control of your parent, guardian, or custodian.

By law, you do not have to pay a filing fee or any court costs. If you do not have a lawyer, the court will appoint one for you free of charge.

The court is not allowed to tell you parent, guardian, or custodian that you are pregnant or that you want to have an abortion. The court must keep the complaint and all other papers in your case confidential.

The complaint must be filed in a juvenile court in the county where you reside or have a legal settlement or in any county that borders the county where you reside or have a legal settlement.

**HOW TO FILL OUT THE FORM**

**Completing Statement #5:** Check one or more of the statements. If you check the first statement, the court will first consider if you are mature enough and well enough informed to intelligently decide whether to have an abortion without telling your parent, guardian, or custodian. If the court does not find that you are sufficiently mature and well enough informed to make the decision, and you have checked either or both of the remaining statements, the court will then consider either of the following:

- Whether there is a pattern of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse of you by your parent, guardian, or custodian;
- Whether telling your parent, guardian, or custodian is not in your best interest.

**Completing Statement #6:** Check the statement that applies to you. If you have a lawyer, fill in the name, address, and telephone number of your lawyer.

**Completing the Top of Page 2:** The law requires that the statements in the complaint be made under oath. This part of the form must be completed in the presence of the person who is allowed to administer oaths, such as a notary public. After you sign your name on the signature line, that person should notarize the form.

**Completing the Bottom of Page 2:** Fill out the bottom of Page 2 only if you do not have a lawyer. Provide any address and telephone number where you may be contacted about this matter. When the court appoints a lawyer for you, the lawyer will reach you at the address or telephone number you provide. You do not have to complete the bottom of Page 2 until after the notary public signs the top of Page 2.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, JUVENILE DIVISION, ROSS COUNTY, OHIO

IN RE COMPLAINT OF JANE DOE

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPLAINT**

Promulgated by the Supreme Court of  
Ohio pursuant to R.C. 2151.85(G)

I swear or affirm that:

1. I am pregnant.
2. I am unmarried, under 18 years of age, and unemancipated.
3. I wish to have an abortion without notification of my parent, guardian or custodian.
4. This complaint is being filed in the juvenile court of the county where I reside or have a legal settlement or in a county bordering the county where I reside or have a legal settlement.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ I am sufficiently mature and well enough informed to intelligently decide whether to have an abortion without the notification of my parent, guardian or custodian.

\_\_\_\_\_ One or both of my parents, my guardian, or my custodian has engaged in a pattern of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse against me.

\_\_\_\_\_ Notification of my parent, guardian, or custodian of my desire to have an abortion is not in my best interest.

6. \_\_\_\_\_ I do not have a lawyer.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have a lawyer. The name, address, and telephone number of my lawyer are:

Lawyer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Lawyer's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Lawyer's Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_

THEREFORE, I request that this Court issue an order authorizing me to consent to an abortion without the notification of my parent, guardian, or custodian.

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

THIS PAGE OF THE ORIGINAL MUST BE REMOVED AND PLACED UNDER SEAL IN A SAFE OR OTHER SECURE PLACE AS REQUIRED BY RULE 23(A)(2) OF THE RULES OF SUPERINTENDENCE FOR OHIO COURTS.

I swear or affirm that the information in the attached complaint is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Sworn to or affirmed in my presence this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

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PLEASE NOTE:

If you do **not** have a lawyer, please provide in the spaces below any address and telephone number where the Court may contact you until a lawyer is appointed to represent you. You do **not** need to use your home address and telephone number.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, JUVENILE DIVISION, ROSS COUNTY, OHIO

In re complaint of Jane Doe

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

**JUDGMENT**

This matter came on for hearing on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_. Based upon the testimony and evidence presented, this Court finds:

1. The complainant is an unemancipated minor.
2. The complainant is pregnant and she wishes to obtain an abortion.
3. No parent, guardian, or custodian of the complainant has been notified that she is seeking an abortion.
4. That clear and convincing evidence has been presented to support the following [decide maturity issue first if pleaded]:

\_\_\_\_\_ Complainant is sufficiently mature and well enough informed to decide intelligently whether to have an abortion without notifying a parent, guardian, or custodian.

\_\_\_\_\_ There is evidence of a pattern of physical, sexual, or emotional abuse of the complainant by one or both of her parents, her guardian, or her custodian.

\_\_\_\_\_ Notification of a parent, guardian, or custodian would not be in the complainant's best interest.

\_\_\_\_\_ None of the criteria set forth in paragraph 4 has been established by clear and convincing evidence.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

\_\_\_\_\_ The complaint is granted and the complainant is hereby authorized to consent to the performance or inducement of an abortion without the notification of a parent, guardian, or custodian.

\_\_\_\_\_ The complaint is dismissed. The Clerk is instructed to provide the complainant with the notice of appeal form and advise her of her right to an expedited appeal.

\_\_\_\_\_, Ohio

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

**COMPLAINT FOR AN ORDER AUTHORIZING CONSENT TO AN ABORTION  
WITHOUT NOTIFICATION OF A PARENT, GUARDIAN,  
OR CUSTODIAN (R.C. 2151.85)**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

If you are pregnant; unmarried, under 18 years old, and unemancipated; and want to have an abortion without the consent of your parents, you may ask a juvenile court for permission. The court will then decide whether you are sufficiently mature and well-enough informed to decide intelligently to have an abortion or whether an abortion is in your best interests. The attached form, called a petition, should be used to ask a court to let you have an abortion without the consent of your parents.

If you are under 18 and not married, you are “unemancipated” if any of the following apply:

1. You have not entered the armed services of the United States;
2. You do not have a job and support yourself;
3. You are under the care and control of your parent, guardian, or custodian.

By law, you do not have to pay a filing fee or any court costs. If you do not have a lawyer, the court will appoint one for you free of charge. The court will also appoint a guardian ad litem, who is a person responsible for protecting your interests. The court may appoint your lawyer to be your guardian ad litem.

The court is not allowed to tell you parent, guardian, or custodian that you are pregnant or that you want to have an abortion. The court must keep the complaint and all other papers in your case confidential.

The petition must be filed in a juvenile court in the county where you reside or have a legal settlement or in any county that borders the county where you reside or have a legal settlement.

**HOW TO FILL OUT THE FORM**

**Completing Statement #5:** Check one or both of the statements. If you check the first statement, the court will first consider if you are mature enough and well enough informed to intelligently decide whether to have an abortion. If the court does not find that you are sufficiently mature and well enough informed to make the decision, and you have checked the

second statement, the court will then consider whether the abortion is in your best interest. If you are not sure which statement to check, you may check both and then discuss this with your lawyer.

**Completing Statement #6:** Check the statement that applies to you. If you have a lawyer, fill in the name, address, and telephone number of your lawyer.

**Completing the Top of Page 2:** The law requires that the statements in the petition be made under oath. This part of the form must be completed by you or someone who is assisting you (called a “next friend”) in the presence of a person who is allowed to administer oaths, such as a notary public. After you or the person assisting you signs the petition, the person who administers oaths should notarize the form.

**Completing the Bottom of Page 2:** Fill out the bottom of Page 2 only if you do not have a lawyer. Provide any address and telephone number where you may be contacted about this matter. When the court appoints a lawyer for you, the lawyer will reach you at the address or telephone number you provide. You do not have to complete the bottom of Page 2 until after the notary public signs the top of Page 2.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, JUVENILE DIVISION, ROSS COUNTY, OHIO

IN RE COMPLAINT OF JANE DOE

CASE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**PETITION**

I swear or affirm that:

1. I am pregnant.
2. I am unmarried, \_\_\_\_\_ years of age, and unemancipated.
3. I wish to have an abortion and have been fully informed of the risks and consequences of an abortion.
4. This petition is being filed in the juvenile court of the county where I reside or have a legal settlement or in a county bordering the county where I reside or have a legal settlement.

[CHECK ON OR BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS.]

5. \_\_\_\_\_ I am sufficiently mature and well enough informed to intelligently decide whether to have an abortion.

\_\_\_\_\_ The Court should find by clear and convincing evidence that an abortion is in my best interests and give judicial consent to the abortion.

[CHECK ON OR BOTH OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS.]

6. \_\_\_\_\_ I do not have a lawyer and ask that the court appoint a lawyer free of charge.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have a lawyer. The name, address, and telephone number of my lawyer are:

Lawyer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Lawyer's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Lawyer's Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_



THIS PAGE OF THE ORIGINAL MUST BE REMOVED AND PLACED UNDER SEAL IN A SAFE OR OTHER SECURE PLACE AS REQUIRED BY RULE 23(A)(2) OF THE RULES OF SUPERINTENDENCE FOR OHIO COURTS.

- 7. The following is/are the name(s) and address(es) of my parent(s), guardian(s), or custodian(s) or, if my parents are deceased and no guardian(s) is/are appointed, any person standing in place of my parent(s), guardian(s), or custodian(s):

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

THEREFORE, I request that this Court appoint a lawyer if I do not already have one, appoint a guardian ad litem to represent my best interests, and issue an order authorizing me to consent or granting judicial consent to an abortion without the consent of my parent, guardian, or custodian.

I swear or affirm that the information in the attached complaint is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature (Minor or Next Friend)

If this petition is being filed by a next friend on behalf of a minor, the minor's initials are: \_\_\_\_\_.

Sworn to or affirmed in my presence this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

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PLEASE NOTE:

If you do not have a lawyer, please provide in the spaces below any address and telephone number where the Court may contact you until a lawyer is appointed to represent you. You do not need to use your home address and telephone number.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, JUVENILE DIVISION, ROSS COUNTY, OHIO

In re complaint of Jane Doe

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

**JUDGMENT**

This matter came on for hearing on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_. Based upon the testimony and evidence presented, this Court finds:

1. The court:

\_\_\_\_ Has jurisdiction over the petition.

\_\_\_\_ Does not have jurisdiction over the petition for the following reasons:

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2. \_\_\_\_ The petitioner is an unemancipated minor.

3. \_\_\_\_ The petitioner is pregnant and she wishes to obtain an abortion.

4. \_\_\_\_ The petitioner has been fully informed of the risks and consequences of the abortion.

5. \_\_\_\_ The court has specifically inquired about the minor's understanding of the possible physical and emotional complications of abortion and how the minor would respond if the minor experienced those complications after the abortion.

6. \_\_\_\_ The court has specifically inquired about the extent to which anyone has instructed the minor on how to answer questions and on what testimony to give at the hearing.

7. That clear and convincing evidence has been presented to support the following [decide maturity issue first if pleaded]:

a. \_\_\_\_ Petitioner is sufficiently mature and well enough informed to decide intelligently whether to have an abortion without obtaining the consent of a parent, guardian, or custodian.

b. \_\_\_\_ The abortion would be in petitioner's best interest for the following reasons:

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c. \_\_\_\_\_ Neither 5a. nor 5b. has been established for the following reasons:

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THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

\_\_\_\_\_ The petition is granted and the petitioner is hereby authorized to consent to the performance or inducement of an abortion.

\_\_\_\_\_ The court finds the abortion is in the best interest of the petitioner and judicial consent is hereby authorized.

\_\_\_\_\_ The petition is denied. The Clerk is instructed to provide the petitioner with the notice of appeal form and advise her of her right to an expedited appeal.

\_\_\_\_\_ The petition is dismissed for lack of jurisdiction. The Clerk is instructed to provide the petitioner with the notice of appeal form and advise her of her right to an expedited appeal.

Chillicothe, Ohio

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, JUVENILE DIVISION, ROSS COUNTY, OHIO

In re complaint of Jane Doe

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTICE OF APPEAL**

Promulgated by the Supreme Court  
Of Ohio pursuant o R.C. 2151.85(G)

Notice is hereby given that the complainant appeals to the Court of Appeals for Ross County from the final order entered in the above-styled cause on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, dismissing the complaint seeking an abortion without notification of complainant's parents, guardian, or custodian.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Attorney for Complainant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney Telephone

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, JUVENILE DIVISION, ROSS COUNTY, OHIO

In re complaint of Jane Doe

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTICE OF APPEAL**

Promulgated by the Supreme Court  
Of Ohio pursuant o R.C. 2151.85(G)

Notice is hereby given that the petitioner appeals to the Court of Appeals for Ross County from the final order entered in the above-styled cause on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, denying or dismissing the petition seeking an abortion.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Attorney for Petitioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney Address

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney Telephone

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, JUVENILE DIVISION, ROSS COUNTY, OHIO

In re complaint of Jane Doe

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

**VERIFICATION**

Promulgated by the Supreme Court  
Of Ohio pursuant o R.C. 2151.85(G)

This will verify that on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Jane Doe filed her complaint for an order authorizing consent to the abortion without notification of a parent, guardian, or custodian and as of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, which is more than five business days after the filing of the complaint, the court has not held a hearing to consider her complaint.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

(Seal)

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, JUVENILE DIVISION, ROSS COUNTY, OHIO

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR FORMS 24-A and 24-B**

If you use these forms, the person performing your abortion will not be required to give notice of your abortion to a parent, guardian, or custodian. Instead, you can choose to have notice provided to a brother or sister over 21 years of age or a stepparent or grandparent.

These forms are called affidavits. An affidavit is a sworn statement signed before a person authorized to administer oaths, such as a notary public. The clerk's office will provide a notary public if you want to complete the forms in the clerk's office.

These forms may be used if all of the following apply.

You are:

1. Pregnant;
2. Unmarried;
3. Under 18 years old;
4. Unemancipated, which means that any of the following apply
  - You have not entered the armed forces of the United States;
  - You do not have a job and support yourself;
  - You are under the care and control of a parent, guardian, or custodian.
5. You fear, based on events that have happened in the past, physical, sexual, or severe emotional abuse if notice of the abortion is given to a parent, guardian, or custodian.

These forms will be filed with the juvenile court and kept confidential. The clerk of the court will provide notice to the abortion provider that the forms have been filed and the clerk will inform the abortion provider of the name of the person you have chosen to receive notice of your abortion. The forms will not be released by the court.

You do not have to pay any filing fee or court costs to the clerk for notarizing these forms, filing these forms, or issuing the notice to the abortion provider.

The affidavit must be filed in a juvenile court in the county where you reside or have a legal settlement or in any county that borders the county where you reside and have a legal settlement.

## **HOW TO FILL OUT THE FORMS**

There are two forms. You complete one of them. The other form is completed by the person you select to receive notice of your abortion. That must be a brother or sister over 21 years old or a stepparent or grandparent.

Your form requires that you name the person to receive notice and provide the name and address of the person to perform the abortion.

Both of the forms must be signed in front of a notary public or other person, such as a judge or attorney, authorized to administer oaths.

## **WHAT TO DO AFTER FILLING OUT THE FORMS**

After the forms are signed and notarized, give them to the juvenile court clerk, who will file them in a confidential place within the clerk's office. Then the clerk will issue a notice that you may take to the abortion provider. With that notice the abortion provider will be authorized to provide notice of the abortion to the brother, sister, stepparent, or grandparent that you have selected.



IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, JUVENILE DIVISION, ROSS COUNTY, OHIO

In re complaint of Jane Doe

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

**AFFIDAVIT**

R.C. 2919.12(B)(1)(b)(ii)

STATE OF OHIO                    )  
  )  
COUNTY OF ROSS                )

I, \_\_\_\_\_, being duly sworn, state as follows:

1. I am pregnant, unmarried, under 18 years of age, and unemancipated.
2. I wish to have an abortion without notification of a parent, guardian, or custodian.
3. I request instead that notice of my intention to have the abortion be given to one of the following: [Select One]:
  - a. \_\_\_\_\_, a brother or sister 21 years of age or older or,  
Name
  - b. \_\_\_\_\_, a stepparent or grandparent  
Name
4. I am in fear of physical, sexual, or severe emotional abuse from a parent, guardian, or custodian who otherwise would be notified of my intention to have an abortion pursuant to R.C. 2919.12.
5. My fear is based on a pattern of physical, sexual, or severe emotional abuse exhibited by a parent, guardian, or custodian.

6. I understand that upon the filing of this affidavit and an affidavit from the person specified above with the juvenile court, an officer of that court will prepare a notice verifying that the affidavits have been filed.
  
7. The person who intends to perform or induce my abortion and the address of that person are as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Abortion Provider

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Before me appeared the above named person who under oath or by affirmation did sign this affidavit this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

(Page 2)

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, JUVENILE DIVISION, ROSS COUNTY, OHIO

In re complaint of Jane Doe

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

**AFFIDAVIT**

R.C. 2919.12(B)(1)(b)(iii)

STATE OF OHIO                    )  
  )  
COUNTY OF ROSS                )

\_\_\_\_\_, being duly sworn, state as follows:  
(Name)

8. I am [select appropriate one]

\_\_\_\_\_ over 21 years of age and I am a brother or sister of

\_\_\_\_\_ a stepparent or grandparent of

\_\_\_\_\_, (hereafter a minor) who has [name of pregnant minor] filed an affidavit with the Juvenile Court pursuant to R.C. 2919.12(B)(1)(b)(ii).

9. I have been specified in the minor’s affidavit as the person to receive notice of the minor’s intention to receive an abortion.

10. The minor has reason to fear physical, sexual, or severe emotional abuse from a parent, guardian, or custodian who otherwise would be notified of her intention to have an abortion pursuant to R.C. 2919.12.

11. Her fear is based on a pattern of physical, sexual, or severe emotional abuse exhibited by a parent, guardian, or custodian.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Before me appeared the above named person who under oath or by affirmation did sign this affidavit this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, JUVENILE DIVISION, ROSS COUNTY, OHIO

In re complaint of Jane Doe

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that on \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_ (minor's name) filed affidavits pursuant to R.C.  
2919.12(B)(1)(b)(ii) and (iii) and may therefore proceed to have any notifications required by  
that statute issued to the following specified adult:  
\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk

(Seal)