

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILING A RESPONSE

When a Motion or a Petition is filed, you need to file a response to let the court know what your position is, and what you want the court to do.

- ◆ A response to the **Petition for Dissolution of Marriage/Civil Union, response to Petition for Declaration of Invalidity of Marriage/Civil Union, or a response to a Legal Separation (Marriage/Civil Union)** must be filed within 21 days after service or after you signed a waiver of service. However, if you were served outside of the state of Colorado, you have 35 days to respond to the Petition.
- ◆ A response to any **Motion** must be filed within 21 days of the time the Motion was served on you by mail. Simply fill out the response form, telling the court why you disagree with the other party's position.
- ◆ When you file the response, you will be asked to pay a filing fee.

You do not need to "prove" your case in the response; you simply need to tell the court what you believe to be true. For example, you may agree that the marriage or civil union is irretrievably broken, but you want different orders entered than the petitioner does. Or, you may agree that child support should be modified, but you may not agree that you make more money than you did at the time of the original order. If you need more space, you may attach another sheet to the response form.

REMEMBER TO SEND A COPY OF YOUR RESPONSE TO THE OTHER PARTY AND FILE THE ORIGINAL WITH THE COURT.

- ◆ Fill out the Certificate of Service at the end of the Response to show that you mailed the documents.