



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

- CENTRAL DIVISION, CENTRAL COURTHOUSE, 1100 UNION ST., SAN DIEGO, CA 92101 (619) 844-2888
- EAST COUNTY DIVISION, 250 E. MAIN ST., EL CAJON, CA 92020 (619) 456-4100
- NORTH COUNTY DIVISION, 325 S. MELROSE DR., SUITE 340, VISTA, CA 92081 (760) 201-8300
- SOUTH COUNTY DIVISION, 500 3RD AVE., CHULA VISTA, CA 91910 (619) 746-6097

FAMILY COURT SERVICES COMPLAINT FORM

Family Court Services (FCS) appreciates you taking time to inform us of your complaint about the services you received through our offices. We encourage you to notify us of your complaint as early as possible. Our staff is committed to responding to your concerns in a prompt and thorough manner. We are interested only in helping you and the courts make the best decisions possible to meet the needs and interests of your child(ren).

COMPLAINT FORM IS NOT REQUIRED TO REQUEST A DIFFERENT COUNSELOR ON A NEW FILING

Please call the FCS office where your session took place to request a change of counselor for future appointments.

Attached is a set of questions that will help us better understand the nature of your complaint about Family Court Services staff and/or procedures. Please complete the form and return it to the Family Court Services office where your session took place.

A completed copy of this form must be sent to the other party and, if represented, to their attorney. If an attorney represents you, it is important that your attorney be aware of your concerns.

Below is some general information that may be helpful for you to consider regarding your complaint.

1. *Only a judicial officer can make a court order for child custody or visitation.* Family Court Services cannot reverse or change a court-ordered parenting plan. If you are concerned about the custody or visitation orders that were made by a judicial officer, you must make your appeal directly to the court for a review of the case.
2. Submitting a complaint through the use of the attached form is *not* an appeal for a review or reversal of court orders that have been made in your case. An appeal is a legal process over which Family Court Services has no control. Use of this form is, however, the proper way to express your grievances about the way in which Family Court Services handled your child custody recommending counseling session.
3. A complaint about how you were treated at Family Court Services or about the procedures used can be addressed directly by the Family Court Services office. Concerns regarding the content of the FCS report, including disagreement with the recommendations, should be addressed at the court hearing.
4. Do not attach additional documents including declarations, pleadings, photos, and/or emails.
5. To process your complaint, the manager of Family Court Services will:
 - Review and assign your complaint for investigation, if appropriate.
 - Talk with the staff that has been involved with your case.
 - Determine whether your complaint is a matter that Family Court Services can address or a legal matter only the courts can address.

A representative of Family Court Services will respond to your concerns in writing or by telephone and provide a copy of the response to the other party and all attorneys of record.

