

General Information & Instructions: Motion to Intervene

These instructions are intended to be a general guide to help you complete and file these forms, serve them on the opposing parties, and get your request before the court. These do not guarantee that you will be successful in your motion but are to assist you in preparing your request.

A **Motion to Intervene** is a request to a court asking that you be joined as a party to a case. For example, parties to a case may be a child's mother, father, or legal custodian. This motion must be filed with the clerk's office of the court where the current (or closed) case is being heard.

When you file a motion, you must inform all parties of your request through the official court process. You must notify them with official court documents, including a copy of the signed Motion to Intervene. This is what it means to have them "served."

A **Request for Service** form (Supreme Court of Ohio Uniform Domestic Relations Form 31/Juvenile Form 10) is used to select how you want the parties to be served. You can find this form at www.supremecourt.ohio.gov or on your local court's website.

A **Certificate of Service** must be signed and filed with your Motion to Intervene. This shows that all the parties to the case have been informed of your request to the court.

What documents you will need:

- Motion to Intervene with Certificate of Service
- A separate (additional) pleading/document asking the court for the change you want, such as a change in custody or child support with a Request for Service

It is your responsibility to do the following:

- Provide accurate contact information for each party.
- Contact the Clerk of Court's Office if you do not know the case number or judge or magistrate's name.
- Check with your local court to see if there are additional requirements.

Next Steps

- Take your completed paperwork to the clerk's office of the appropriate court and ask if a hearing on your motion will be scheduled and how you will be notified of the date and time of your hearing.
- Pay the filing fee. If you cannot afford to pay the filing fee, you can use the **Affidavit of Indigency/Fee Waiver Affidavit and Order Form** (Supreme Court of Ohio Form 20). This form asks that you be allowed to file without paying a fee in advance. You may still be responsible for paying the fee at the end of the case. You can find this form at www.supremecourt.ohio.gov or on your local court's website.
- If your contact information changes, you must notify the court of these changes, or your motion could be dismissed.
- Contact the clerk's office before your hearing to make sure the parties received their paperwork. You will be required to provide a new address or choose a different method of service if the paperwork is undeliverable. If notice cannot be made and the party does not appear at the hearing, your motion could be dismissed.
- The Motion to Intervene must be granted before the court can consider any request for custody, visitation, companionship, child support, or other type of change.

The Court and Clerk of Court's staff cannot give legal advice. Contact a lawyer, legal aid office, or Ohio Legal Help at www.ohiolegalhelp.org if you have questions.

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

_____ **DIVISION**

_____ **COUNTY, OHIO**

IN THE MATTER OF:

Plaintiff

vs.

Case No. _____

Defendant

vs.

Intervenor

MOTION TO INTERVENE

This form is to request to become a party to a domestic relations or juvenile court case. A separate motion must be filed with this motion. If more space is needed, add additional pages.

1. My relationship with the child is (for example, grandparent, aunt, uncle, family friend, etc.)

Supreme Court of Ohio

Uniform Domestic Relations Form 32

Uniform Juvenile Form 11

MOTION TO INTERVENE

Approved under Ohio Civil Rule 84 and Ohio Juvenile Rule 46

Effective Date: January 22, 2026

2. I, _____, request to be added as a party to the case because:

3. I am requesting to be made a party to this case because I am seeking one of the following listed below. I understand I must file a separate motion for this request along with this motion to intervene.

- Legal Custody
- Temporary Custody
- Visitation/Companionship
- Child Support as a Caretaker
- Other _____

4. This motion is submitted by: Me as a self-represented litigant or Attorney.

Signature

Printed Name

Attorney Registration Number if applicable

Telephone Number

Email Address

Date

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

*Service should be made to all parties in the case.
Attach an additional sheet if you are serving more than three parties.*

I certify that a copy of this motion was sent to the following parties on the following date
_____, 20_____.

Party Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone (if known)

E-mail Address on File with the Court (if known)

This motion was sent by:
 Regular U.S. Mail
 E-mail (to the address on file with the court)
 Hand Delivery
 Fax
 Other _____

Party Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone (if known)

E-mail Address on File with the Court (if known)

This motion was sent by:
 Regular U.S. Mail
 E-mail (to the address on file with the court)
 Hand Delivery
 Fax
 Other _____

Party Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Phone (if known)

E-mail Address on File with the Court (if known)

This motion was sent by:
 Regular U.S. Mail
 E-mail (to the address on file with the court)
 Hand Delivery
 Fax
 Other _____

Signature of Attorney or Self-Represented Litigant