MEDIATION AND COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE JOY A. DRYER. PH.D.

PARENTING PLAN CHECKLIST

1. RESIDENCE

A) CHILD(REN)

Sole/ Primary Parenting Joint/Co-Parenting

B) PARENT: Relocation

Discussion RE: relocation possibility e.g. radius range, Adjustments in event of relocation by either parent e.g. travel arrangements

2. MAKING DECISIONS

A) DAILY Decisions

Sole Decision-Making Authority Joint Decision Making Authority

> Always consult with other parent Option to consult with other parent Divide responsibility based upon each parent's strengths and weaknesses

B) MAJOR Decisions

Sole Decision-Making Authority
Joint Decision Making Authority
Always consult with other parent
Option to consult with other parent
Divide responsibility based upon each parent's strengths and weaknesses

3. SHARING INFORMATION

A) INFORMATION ABOUT THE CHILD(REN)

1) Both parents are entitled to important information about their child(ren), including current address and phone , and including but not limited to:

Medical and Psychological Records School Records Government Agency Records Law enforcement records

- 2) Both parents will immediately notify each other in case of any emergency circumstance or substantial changes in their child(ren)'s physical and/or emotional health.
- 3) If either parent takes the child(ren) from their usual place of residence, they ideally will provide beforehand an emergency contact phone number, or at least within 24 hours.

B) PARENTAL INFORMATION

Each parent shall inform the other first, before informing the child(ren) RE: any change(s) in that parent's health or job situation or residential relocation. A new romantic partner may be introduced after a perid of time & seems long term.

C) PARENT-CHILD COMMUNICATION

- 1) Both parents and child(ren) have the right to communicate by phone, in writing, or by email during reasonable hours without interference or monitoring by the other parent.
- 2) Parents will not say anything or knowingly allow others to say things in their child(ren)'s presence that would take away love and/or respect for the other parent.

4. SCHOOL / EDUCATION

Choosing Schools/Childcare Attending Teacher's Conferences Extracurricular Activities Weekday Weekend

5. PARENTING SCHEDULE

A) SCHOOL: School evenings

Non-school midweek

School half-days

B) NON-SCHOOL: Weekends

Three-day weekends

School Breaks: Winter Break Midwinter Break Spring Break **Summer Vacation**

C) HOLIDAYS:

New Year's Eve; New Year's Day; MLKing Day; Presidents' Day; Easter/Passover; Mother's Day; Memorial Day; Father's Day; July 4th; Labor Day; Columbus Day; Thanksgiving; Xmas Eve; Xmas Day.

D) SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Family Birthdays

E) TRAVEL

Etiquette of visits e.g. Be on time; Sufficient clothing packed/ and returned.

F) CHANGES TO SCHEDULE

- 1) Makeup and Missed Parenting time: Due only to substantial medical reasons, or other reasons.
- 2) Temporary Changes: In advance, Verbally. In writing.
- 3) Permanent Changes: In advance, Verbally. In writing.

6. HEALTHCARE

Medical/Dental Care Expenses Selection of Practitioners **Appointments** Therapy/Counseling Special Evaluations

7. RELIGION

Religious Education Religious Practice Holidays

8. EXTENDED FAMILY: RELATIONSHIPS & VISITS

Grandparents Other Family Members Significant Others **New Relationships**

Step Parents **New Siblings**

9. GUARDIANSHIP

In the event of death of both parents

10. PLAN ADJUSTMENTS

- A) On the anniversary of the signing, the Parenting Plan will be reviewed by the parents to assess if readjustment, esp in scheduling, need to be made.
- B) Disagreements. . If parents can not reach agreement on an issue requiring consensus, or dispute an interpretation of a agreement or any other dispute re: agreement (including default), they agree to return to the collaborative divorce process, i.e. seek advice from their coach, and/or their lawyers, as first steps before seeking legal action.

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