

READ THIS:

◆ This form **MUST BE COMPLETED** and **SIGNED** by the Respondent **AFTER** the Original Petition to Determine Parentage has been stamped by the Clerk's Office with the date and time that it was filed. **THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.**

CAUSE NO. _____

[Fill out cause number and heading information EXACTLY as it is written on the Petition]

IN THE INTEREST OF §
 MINOR CHILDREN: § IN THE
 _____, § _____ COURT OF
 _____, §
 _____, §
 _____, § _____ COUNTY, TEXAS
 §
 [Print the children's names.]

RESPONDENT'S ORIGINAL ANSWER

I, _____, am the Respondent in this case to Determine Parentage.
[Print the name of the Respondent.]

I file my Original Answer to the Original Petition to Determine Parentage and show the following:

[CHECK all that apply.]

1. General Denial

I am not the father of the children in this case.

2. Statute of Limitations

This case is barred by the Statute of Limitations because the children in this case have:

- an acknowledged father (man who signed an Acknowledgment of Paternity).
- an adjudicated father (the Court has named a father for this child).
- a presumed father (mother was married when the child was born).

This case was filed after the fourth anniversary of the acknowledgment, adjudication, or birth of the children.

3. Request for Genetic Testing

I ask the Court to order genetic testing.

4. Request to Deny Genetic Testing and Name the Presumed father

I ask the Court to deny genetic testing and to name the presumed father the legal father of the children. The mother and the presumed father have acted as though the presumed father is the children's father. It would be unfair to disprove the father-child relationship between the children and the presumed father. It is in the children's best interest to name the presumed father the father of the children. The Court should appoint a guardian ad litem for the children.

5. Admission of Paternity and Request for an Order

I am the father of the children named in this case. I ask the Court to name me the legal father of the children.

6. Prayer

I ask that Petitioner take nothing and that I be granted all relief requested in this Original Answer. I ask for general relief.

Respectfully submitted,

Respondent, Pro Se [Sign your name on the line.]

[PRINT your name and information.]

Name: _____

Telephone: _____

Mailing _____

Address: _____

[City, State, Zip]

Certificate of Service

[You must deliver a copy of your answer, and anything else you file in your court case, to each party. If the other party has a lawyer, you should serve the party's lawyer. You may serve your Original Answer by certified mail, hand delivery, fax, or by delivery service. Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, 21 (a).]

I swear that a true copy of the above was served on each attorney of record or party in accordance with the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure on _____.
[PRINT month, day and year.]

Respondent, Pro Se [Sign your name on the line.]