

Debbie Beach, LCSW
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**PARENTING COORDINATOR AGREEMENT
FOR PRE-DIVORCE WORK**

We _____ and _____
have entered into an agreement with Debbie Beach, LCSW to serve as a Parenting Coordinator for us and our child(ren). This contract is for services provided during the divorce process for the purposes of making parenting decisions including the development of a parenting plan. This agreement shall serve as a binding contract.

GENERAL

1. We understand that it is in the children's best interests that parents do not engage in conflict. To that end we will attempt to resolve disagreements whenever possible.
2. The Parent Coordinator may provide education about child development and communication. She may coach us to better communicate with each other and our child(ren), and she may refer us to other professionals as indicated.
3. We intend to work with our Parent Coordinator to resolve our issues in a mutually satisfactory manner between ourselves whenever possible. If any issue cannot be resolved between us, then the Parenting Coordinator shall hear from each party and any third party who, in her opinion, can be helpful to her in her role as Parent Coordinator. These third parties may include, but may not be limited to, the child(ren), teachers, medical/mental health care providers, caregivers, attorneys, or any parties who, in the Parent Coordinator's opinion, might be helpful to the decision-making process. We agree to sign any necessary authorizations for the release of requested information.
4. If, in her opinion, the decision under consideration cannot be made without consultation with a newly appointed additional professional (i.e. testing psychologist or educational consultant), we understand that the Parenting Coordinator may not be able to render a recommendation without our agreement to hire and work with said professional.
5. We agree to give great weight to any recommendations made by the Parent Coordinator.
6. Appointments or telephone contacts with the Parenting Coordinator may be scheduled at the request of either party or of the Parenting Coordinator. All parties agree to make a good faith effort to be available when contacts are requested.
7. Since the appointment of a Parent Coordinator is either court ordered, recommended by a guardian ad litem, or a stipulation between us, we understand that the process is not confidential. We understand that our Parent Coordinator may send memos to attorneys, if requested or if we reach an impasse. Additionally, either party may subpoena Debbie Beach to appear in court.
8. This contract cannot cover all the particulars that may arise in every situation. We understand that the Parenting Coordinator may need to establish new rules and guidelines to fit our unique situation and relationship. The fundamental principles governing all rules and guidelines are 1) minimization of conflict and 2) decision-making in the best interests of the child(ren).

FEE ARRANGEMENTS

1. We will be billed at the rate of ____ per hour. _____ will be responsible for ____% and _____ will be responsible for ____%. We understand that we will be billed for fees associated with this process, such as, but not limited to, phone contact with the parties and their attorneys, consultations, child(ren)'s sessions, reviewing/preparing reports. Billing will occur in minimum increments of 5 minutes.

Depositions, court testimony, and transportation to the latter will be billed at a rate of _____ per hour. Fees for depositions and testimony must be received two weeks prior to the scheduled date and will be charged in blocks of five hours including travel (with five hours being the minimum block of time). There will be a minimum one-hour travel time fee assessed for each appearance. There is a no-refund policy for depositions and court testimony: once Debbie Beach has agreed to appear and the fee is paid, it is non-refundable under any circumstance.

2. Upon the signing of this contract, the Parenting Coordinator shall be paid a retainer of \$_____ from _____ and \$ from _____. Each of you will receive, on a monthly basis, an itemized statement of account, with the costs being deducted from the retainer account. When the account falls below _____ a further retainer will be requested and shall be paid or services may be suspended. At the end of the Parent Coordination process, any amounts remaining in the retainer account shall be returned to you.

5. If an appointment is cancelled with less than 48 business hours notice the full fee for the appointment will be charged. If one party cancels an appointment with fewer than 48 hours notice or fails to show up for an appointment, that party will be responsible for the full fee for that session.

I have read the above contract, have had the opportunity to discuss it with my attorney if I so wish, and agree to its terms.

Name of Mother _____

Signature of Mother _____ Date _____

Name of Father _____

Signature of Father _____ Date _____

Debbie Beach, LCSW, Parenting Coordinator