

SUPREME COURT OF FLORIDA

Amendments to the Florida Family Law Forms

817 So. 2d 721 (Fla. 2001) · Decided December 6, 2001

SUMMARY

The Florida Supreme Court adopted amendments to Florida Family Law Forms 12.902(c), 12.902(d), 12.981(b), and 12.941(e), removing requests for social security numbers where no legitimate purpose was served. The amended forms were made effective for immediate use and reproduced in the opinion's appendix.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Supreme Court of Florida
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Wells, C.J.; Shaw, J.; Harding, J.; Anstead, J.; Pariente, J.; Lewis, J.; Quince, J.
JURISDICTION	Florida
DECIDED	December 6, 2001
DISPOSITION	approved
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	The Supreme Court of Florida reviewed the Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Forms pursuant to its established procedures and adopted amendments eliminating unnecessary requests for Social Security numbers.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published Florida Supreme Court opinion adopting and amending approved family-law forms; precedential as to the court's adoption and effective date of the amendments.

TOPICS

- family law procedure
- family law
- civil procedure
- child custody
- adoption

PRACTICE AREAS

- family law
- civil procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the Florida Supreme Court should amend specified Florida Family Law Forms to delete requests for Social Security numbers where no legitimate purpose is served.

2. Whether the amended forms should be adopted and made immediately effective.

HOLDINGS

1. The court adopted amendments to forms 12.902(c), 12.902(d), 12.981(b), and 12.941(e) deleting requests for Social Security numbers.
2. The amended forms adopted by the court are effective for immediate use.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“We hereby adopt the amendments to forms 12.902(c), 12.902(d), 12.981(b) and 12.941(e) deleting the request for a social security number.” (817 So. 2d at 721)

“The amended forms are set forth in the appendix to this opinion, fully engrossed, and effective for immediate use.” (817 So. 2d at 721)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The Florida Supreme Court determined that certain approved Family Law Forms requested Social Security numbers even when those numbers were not necessary. The Advisory Workgroup and the Florida Family Law Rules Committee supported removing the requests where no legitimate purpose was served. The court amended forms 12.902(c), 12.902(d), 12.981(b), and 12.941(e).

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The court independently reviewed the Family Law Forms under procedures previously approved in Amendments to the Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure and Family Law Forms, 810 So. 2d 1 (Fla. 2000). The Advisory Workgroup provided input, and the Florida Family Law Rules Committee separately petitioned the court and agreed that unnecessary Social Security number requests should be removed. The court adopted amendments to four forms and made them effective immediately.

DISPOSITION

approved

CASES CITED

- Amendments to the Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure and Family Law Forms, 810 So. 2d 1 (Fla. 2000)