

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**JUDICIAL BRANCH**  
<http://www.courts.state.nh.us>

**STANDARD ORDER OF PARAGRAPHS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEMPORARY  
DECREE ON PETITION FOR DIVORCE, LEGAL SEPARATION,  
OR CIVIL UNION DISSOLUTION**

Instructions: The paragraph numbers and captions as set forth below shall be used in all temporary divorce, legal separation, or civil union dissolution decrees. You must file an agreed upon or proposed temporary decree prior to your temporary hearing, and may use the format below or complete the court's Temporary Decree on Divorce, Legal Separation, or Civil Union Dissolution form (available at court or online at [www.courts.state.nh.us/fdpp/index.htm](http://www.courts.state.nh.us/fdpp/index.htm)). If a particular paragraph is not needed, it must appear, but may be marked "Not Applicable" or "The parties own no real estate," etc. Consecutive paragraphs may be combined for these purposes, for example, "Paragraphs 12—15: The parties have no business interests, debt or real estate."

1. **Type of Case.** Select whether case is a Divorce, Legal Separation, or Civil Union Dissolution.
2. **Parenting Plan and Uniform Support Order.** A Parenting Plan and Uniform Support Order must be completed and submitted if there are minor children. Forms are available at court or online at [www.courts.state.nh.us/fdpp/index.htm](http://www.courts.state.nh.us/fdpp/index.htm).
3. **Tax Exemptions for Children.** State who will be claiming any child(ren) for tax purposes.
4. **Guardian *ad Litem* Fees.** Reference any applicable GAL order.
5. **Alimony.** State if any alimony is to be paid and for how long.
6. **Health Insurance For Spouse.** If each person is going to be responsible for their own health expenses, this must be stated. Include medical, dental, and uninsured medical expenses and how they will be handled. See additional instructions below.
7. **Life Insurance.** State what is going to happen to the life insurance policies owned by the parties and whether the parties shall maintain life insurance for the benefit of the child(ren).
8. **Motor Vehicles.** State who will have use of any motor vehicles until the final decree.
9. **Furniture and Other Personal Property.** State who will have use of any furniture and other personal property until the final decree.
10. **Retirement Plans and Other Tax-Deferred Assets.** State how pensions, retirement plans, and tax-deferred property will be maintained until the final decree.
11. **Other Financial Assets.** State who will use which bank accounts, stocks, etc. until the final decree.
12. **Business Interests of the Parties.** State who will control and bear expenses for any business owned by the parties until the final decree.
13. **Division of Debt.** State who will pay which bills until the final decree.
14. **Marital/Civil Union Home.** State who will have temporary possession of the marital/civil union home, and who will pay expenses for the home until the final decree.
15. **Other Real Property.** State who will have temporary use of other real property owned by parties.
16. **Enforceability after Death.** State if any charges will be made against the person's estate.

17. **Restraints against the Property.** This is standard language in any temporary decree.
18. **Restraining Order.** State if any restraining orders are needed.
19. **Other Requests.** Check off (on court form) or list any other requests you wish to be part of the final order.

**Additional Instructions:**

**Health Insurance for Spouse:** Recent changes to group health/dental insurance coverage laws might allow one party to continue on the other party's group health/dental insurance AFTER the final divorce, legal separation, or civil union dissolution decree is granted. Discussion with your attorney and/or with your health insurance plan administrator during the temporary phase of your case is advised so you will know if you or your spouse carry health insurance that qualifies for this continuation (see RSA 415:18, VII).