

**State of Minnesota**

County \_\_\_\_\_

**District Court**

Judicial District: \_\_\_\_\_  
Court File Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Case Type: Custody

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Petitioner (First, Middle, Last)

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Co- Petitioner, if any (First, Middle, Last)

and

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Respondent Parent A (First, Middle, Last)

\_\_\_\_\_,  
Respondent Parent B (First, Middle, Last)

\_\_\_\_\_.  
Respondent Legal Guardian or Custodian, if any

**SUMMONS FOR THIRD PARTY CUSTODY**

**Minn. Stat. ch. 257C**

**TO THE ABOVE-NAMED Respondents:**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

The Petitioner has filed a lawsuit against you to ask for custody of the following minor children:

- \_\_\_\_\_, BORN \_\_\_\_\_;
- \_\_\_\_\_, BORN \_\_\_\_\_;
- \_\_\_\_\_, BORN \_\_\_\_\_;
- \_\_\_\_\_, BORN \_\_\_\_\_;

A copy of the *Petition for Third Party Custody* is served on you with this *Summons*.

**This *Summons* is an official document that affects your rights, even if it does not have a court file number listed. Read this *Summons* and the attached *Petition* carefully. If you do not understand it, contact an attorney for legal advice.**

1. The Petitioner has filed a lawsuit against you asking the Court to give Petitioner custody of the minor children.

2. You must serve upon Petitioner and file with the Court a written Answer to the Petition, and you must pay the required filing fee unless it is waived by the Court. Answer forms are available on the Minnesota Judicial Branch webpage at [www.mncourts.gov/forms](http://www.mncourts.gov/forms).
3. You must serve your Answer upon the Petitioner **within 21 days** of the date you were served with this Summons, not counting the day of service. If you do not serve and file an Answer, the Court may decide custody and give Petitioner everything he or she is asking for in the attached Petition.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Petitioner  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Co-Petitioner  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_