State of Minnesota

County

Statement of Rights First Court Appearance

on Paternity Proceedings

Judicial District: Court File Number: Case Type:

Petitioner

vs.

Respondent

1. I understand I am in Court because it is alleged that I am the biological father of

2. I have received a copy of the complaint.

3. I understand:

- a. I can be required to submit to blood or genetic testing to determine the percentage of likelihood that I am the father. I can be required to pay for all or part of the cost of testing if I am found by the Court to be the father. The results of any testing to determine my likelihood of paternity can be used in evidence at the trial.
- b. I have the right to be represented by an attorney.
- c. An attorney will be appointed to represent me if I cannot afford one.
- d. I have a right to a trial by a judge or by a jury of six persons.
- e. I am entitled to know in advance the evidence that will be used to try to establish my paternity.
- f. I may question and cross-examine any witnesses called by the county to testify.
- g. I may subpoena witnesses to come to Court to testify on my behalf.
- h. I may be compelled to testify.
- i. I will be allowed to call witnesses, to present evidence, and to explain why I do not think I am the father.
- 4. I also understand if I admit I am the father, or am found after trial to be the biological father of the above-named child:
 - a. I will be required to pay child support in an amount determined by the Court if someone other than myself has physical custody of the child.
 - b. If child support is ordered, and if I fail to pay the child support, I may be found in contempt of Court, or I may be charged with a crime.
 - c. Unpaid child support becomes a judgment against me by operation of law.
- 5. I wish to:
 - \Box waive (give up) my right to have an attorney.

If either of the boxes below are checked, skip 6 and 7 but date and sign this form.

- request a continuance to speak to my own attorney.
- request a court-appointed attorney, and have completed a form regarding my income, property, and expenses.

6. I wish to:

- □ waive (give up) my right to defend this action and admit that I am the father of the above-named child.
- \Box agree to legal custody of the child with the mother.
- \Box agree to physical custody of the child with the mother.
- request visitation to be determined by the Court.
- \Box claim custody or joint custody of the child.
- enter a denial of the complaint and proceed to trial.

7. I wish to:

 \Box request a jury trial. \Box waive (give up) the right to a jury trial.

Signature	Date of Birth
Your Name:	
Street Address:	
City/State/Zip:	
Telephone: ()	
E-mail address:	
	Signature Your Name: Street Address: City/State/Zip: Telephone: () E-mail address: