SUPERIOR COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FAMILY COURT

DOMESTIC RELATIONS BRANCH

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)

[PLAINTIFF NAME], )

)

Plaintiff ) Case No. [YEAR] DRB [####]

v. )

) Judge [NAME]

[DEFENDANT NAME] ) ) Next hearing: [DATE]

Defendant )

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)

**CUSTODY AGREEMENT**

1. **Custody and Visitation:** Both parents recognize the value of the other in their [SON’S/DAUGHTER’S] life. [PLAINTIFF] and [DEFENDANT], the father and mother, agree that the custody, supervision, care and responsibility of [CHILD’S] (Date of Birth: [DATE OF BIRTH]) shall be held jointly and legally between them as described below:

[DEFENDANT] shall care for [CHILD] the first three weeks of each month during the week. The first two weekends during those weeks, [PLAINTIFF] shall pick [CHILD] up from school Friday afternoon and return [HIM/HER] to [DEFENDANT] at the [LOCATION] or another mutually agreeable location on [DAY] at [TIME]. [CHILD] shall spend the third weekend of every month with [HIS/HER] mother. [PLAINTIFF] shall pick [CHILD] up from school on the fourth Monday of each month and shall return [HIM/HER] to [DEFENDANT]’s home or another mutually agreeable location on [DAY] at [TIME]. [PLAINTIFF] shall be responsible for bringing [CHILD] to school the fourth Tuesday through Friday of each month. This four week cycle shall repeat itself even if it commences on the fifth week of the month.

[CHILD] shall spend Father’s day and [PLAINTIFF]’s birthday ([MONTH DAY]) with [PLAINTIFF] and Mother’s day and [DEFENDANT]’s birthday ([MONTH DAY]) with [DEFENDANT]. [CHILD] shall spend [HIS/HER] school holiday in December and January and [HIS/HER] school Spring holiday in March/April and the federal holidays in alternate years with [HIS/HER] mother and father. This cycle shall repeat itself so that [CHILD] gets the opportunity to spend [HIS/HER] school winter and spring holiday breaks and federal holidays with both [HIS/HER] mother and father in alternate years. However, each year, unless otherwise agreed to, [CHILD] shall spend Christmas Eve day with one parent and Christmas day with the other parent – this will alternate each year. The federal holidays excluding Christmas day are: New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents’ Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans’ Day, Thanksgiving, Commencing after the execution of this agreement and in [YEAR], [CHILD] shall spend [HIS/HER] school holiday breaks and federal holidays with [HIS/HER] mother, unless otherwise agreed to by the mother and father.

[CHILD] shall spend [HIS/HER] birthday, [MONTH DAY], in alternate years with [HIS/HER] mother and father. Commencing in [YEAR], [CHILD] will spend [HIS/HER] birthday with [PLAINTIFF]. This cycle shall repeat itself such that [CHILD] spends [HIS/HER] birthday alternate years with [HIS/HER] mother and father.

Commencing the summer of [YEAR], [PLAINTIFF] shall have the right to have [CHILD] for four weeks vacation in the summer; two weeks in July and two weeks in August. [PLAINTIFF] and [DEFENDANT] shall communicate and agree to which weeks [PLAINTIFF] will have [CHILD] for vacation. On or before [MONTH DAY YEAR] and each subsequent year [PLAINTIFF] will advise [DEFENDANT] of the weeks he wishes to have [CHILD] for visitation. [DEFENDANT] shall not unreasonably withhold her consent.

Unless otherwise agreed to, [DEFENDANT] and [PLAINTIFF] agree that the holiday visitation schedule supersedes the regular visitation schedule.

When [CHILD] is with one parent, the other parent shall have daily phone access to [CHILD].

The parents acknowledge the need for planning of activities for [CHILD], and that disappointing him may have adverse effects on [HIM/HER]. Accordingly, on all occasions when either parent does not plan to exercise visitation rights provided herein, or expects to be early or tardy either in picking up or returning [CHILD], that parent shall give reasonable advance notice so that appropriate plans may be made for [CHILD].

It is the intention of both parties that they shall participate in all major events involving [CHILD] and each parent shall advise the other of special events, dinners, sporting activities, plays, recitals and the like in which the child is involved and which parents may attend. Notice of such events shall be given by one parent to the other as soon as reasonably possible after receipt.

1. **Education:** The parties agree that [CHILD] shall attend a public or a public charter school or a private school in [CITY, STATE] unless otherwise agreed to by the mother and father.
2. **In Case of Emergency:** [PLAINTIFF] and [DEFENDANT]’s names will be included on all of [CHILD]’s lists of people to notify “In Case of Emergency” at [CHILD]’s school, doctors or other entity or individual who requests such emergency contact information. Additionally, [PLAINTIFF] and [DEFENDANT] will add the other’s name to his or her wallet card in case of accidents or other emergencies regarding [CHILD]’s welfare.
3. **Information sharing:** [PLAINTIFF] and [DEFENDANT] will disclose the names of [CHILD]’s school, physicians, dentists and other professionals involved in [HIS/HER] life to support the joint custody arrangement.
4. **Travel:** Travel with [CHILD] beyond 200 miles one way or 400 miles round trip from the District requires the express consent of the parent who is not traveling.
5. **Religion:** Each parent acknowledges that [CHILD] may from time to time attend church or other religious ceremonies with [HIS/HER] mother and father; however [PLAINTIFF] and [DEFENDANT] shall allow [CHILD] to have a choice in [HIS/HER] religious upbringing.

7. **Term of Agreement:** The term of this agreement shall run with the calendar year from January 1st to December 31st after the execution of this agreement.

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Plaintiff [PLAINTIFF] Date

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[COUNSEL NAME], *Counsel for [PLAINTIFF]* Date

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Defendant [DEFENDANT] Date

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[COUNSEL NAME], *Counsel for [DEFENDANT]* Date

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Judge [JUDGE NAME] Date