

**SUPERIOR COURT OF WASHINGTON
IN AND FOR THURSTON COUNTY
FAMILY & JUVENILE COURT**

	No. FAMILY LAW TRIAL SELECTION <i>Clerk's Action Required</i>
Petitioner,	
vs.	
Respondent.	

The parties in a family law case must decide whether they want a Traditional Trial or an Informal Trial. **You must make your decision and file this form no later than the date of your settlement conference.**

- In a **Traditional Trial**, both parties are allowed to call witnesses and to cross-examine the witnesses appearing on behalf of the other party. The Rules of Evidence apply.
- An **Informal Trial** is a less formal trial in which the judge, not the parties, questions the witnesses, the rules of evidence do not apply, and there are limits on the ability to call witnesses. This is governed by local court rule LSPR 94.03E. There is a brochure that explains the differences between the two kinds of trials.

CHOOSE ONE OPTION BELOW.

☐ **I want a traditional trial.**

Signed on _____, 20__.

Signature

Printed Name

OR

☐ **I want an Informal Trial. By signing below, I agree to the following terms and understand them:**

Waiver of Traditional Trial:

- I agree to waive the normal question and answer format of trial and I agree the court may ask me questions about the case.

- I agree to waive the use of the rules of evidence in this Informal Trial.
- I agree that the other party can submit any document or other evidence he or she wants the judge to review.
- I agree that the other party can tell the court anything he or she feels is relevant.

I understand the following:

- My participation in an Informal Trial is strictly voluntary, and no one can force me to agree to this process.
- The court will determine what weight will be given to documents, physical evidence, and testimony that is entered as evidence during the Informal Trial.
- I understand how Informal Trials work.
- I have not been threatened or promised anything for agreeing to this Informal Trial process.

Signed on _____, 20____.

Signature

Printed Name