



## Muskegon County 14<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court- Family Division

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR OBJECTING TO A REFEREE'S RECOMMENDED ORDER

If you disagree with this recommendation, you must file a written objection with **Circuit Court Records** by following the below instructions. Any objection must be filed within **21 days** from the date this order is mailed/emailed. If you wish, you may hire a lawyer to prepare an objection on your behalf. **If you prepare your own objection, you must complete the following in order:**

1. **Form to use: FOC 68 – OBJECTION TO REFEREE'S RECOMMENDED ORDER.** You may use this form or any written document that includes the same information. This form is available through Family Court Services (fee applies) or online at <https://www.courts.michigan.gov/4a7c91/siteassets/forms/scao-approved/foc68.pdf>
2. **Filling out Form FOC 68:**
  - a. In the body of the form, you must explain **what** part(s) of the Recommended Order you are objecting to and **why** you are objecting.
  - b. **Notice of Hearing:** You must complete the Notice of Hearing section of the form. To obtain a hearing date before the Judge, you must contact the Judge's office:
    - i. Honorable Gregory C. Pittman
      1. (231) 724-6530 or [starrhe@muskegoncounty.net](mailto:starrhe@muskegoncounty.net)
    - ii. Honorable Kathy L. Hoogstra
      1. (231) 724-6291 or [placere@muskegoncounty.net](mailto:placere@muskegoncounty.net)
    - iii. Honorable Brenda E. Sprader
      1. (231) 724-6233 or [west41@muskegoncounty.net](mailto:west41@muskegoncounty.net)
    - iv. Honorable Jenny L. McNeill
      1. (231) 724-6486 or [ruscopa@muskegoncounty.net](mailto:ruscopa@muskegoncounty.net)
  - c. **Certificate of Mailing:** You must complete the Certificate of Mailing section of the form. Indicate the date that you mailed your completed form FOC 68 by first-class mail **to the other parties or their attorneys.**
3. **Mail:** You must mail a copy of the FOC 68 form **at least 9 days before the hearing date, or if hand-delivered at least 7 days before the hearing date**, to the other parties or their attorneys.
4. **Where to file form FOC 68:** You must then file the completed form FOC 68 with **Circuit Court Records** (fee applies for any copies) in one of the following ways:
  - In person at the Michael E. Kobza Hall of Justice in the Circuit Court Records Office located at 990 Terrace Street, **6<sup>th</sup> Floor**, Muskegon; OR
  - Mail it to Circuit Court Records at 990 Terrace St., Ste. 600, Muskegon, MI 49442.
5. **Hearing:** Attend your scheduled court hearing. If you no longer wish to have the hearing, then you must contact the Judge's office and cancel the hearing. Your objection may be dismissed if you fail to appear on the date and time of your objection hearing, and/or if you fail to provide the other party with proper notice of the hearing.