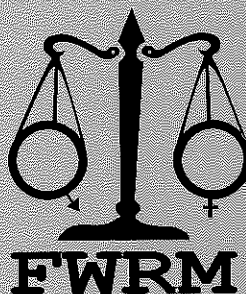




The Asia Foundation



Fiji Women's Rights Movement
21 Knollys Street
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Suva
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Email: info@fwrm.org.fj
Website: www.fwrm.org.fj

Supported by the Fiji Young Lawyers Association

IF YOU NEED HELP:

Please contact: • Family Court Counseling Service, Suva Tel: 3211811, Lautoka Tel: 6660016, Labasa Tel: 8811772 • Legal Aid Commission, Suva Tel: 3311195 Private Mail Bag, Suva, Lautoka Tel: 6650011 Private Mail Bag, Lautoka, Labasa Tel: 8815118 P.O.Box 1241 • Department of Social Welfare (Suva) Tel: 3315585 • Fiji Law Society Secretary (Suva) Tel: 3315690

FAMILY COURT LOCATIONS

There are specialist Family Courts in Suva, Lautoka and Labasa, but every Court across the Fiji Islands can hear your Family Court matters.

Central/Eastern Division • Suva - Government Buildings, Telephone: 3211341, GPO Box 2215 Government Buildings, Suva. • Navua - Navua Court: The court operates on ad hoc basis. Contact Suva Family Court. • Nasinu - Nasinu Magistrate's Court, Telephone: 3390466, PO Box 7748, Nasinu. • Nausori - Nausori Magistrate's Court, Telephone: 3400006, PO Box 227, Nausori. • Vunidawa - Vunidawa Court - Ad hoc basis only, contact Nausori Magistrate's Court. • Korovou - Tailevu Court House, Telephone: 3430060, PO Box 102, Tailevu. • Levuka - Levuka Magistrate's Court, Telephone: 3440355, PO Box 66, Levuka.

Western Division • Lautoka - Lautoka Magistrate's Court - Telephone: 6660016, PO Box 103, Lautoka. • Lautoka High Court - Telephone: 6660877, PO Box 388, Lautoka. • Sigatoka - Sigatoka Magistrate's Court, Telephone: 6500067, PO Box 87, Sigatoka. • Nadi - Nadi Magistrate's Court, Telephone: 6701322, PO Box 1275, Nadi. • Ba - Ba Magistrates Court, Telephone: 6674096, PO Box 430, Ba. • Tavua - Tavua Magistrate's Court - Telephone: 6680023, PO Box 516, Tavua. • Rakiraki - Rakiraki Magistrate's Court, Rakiraki, Telephone: 694348.

Northern Division • Labasa - Labasa Magistrate's Court, Telephone: 8811772, PO Box 56, Labasa. • Nabouwalu - Nabouwalu Magistrate's Court - contact Nabouwalu Police Station: 8836022. • Savusavu - Savusavu Court, Telephone: 8850272, PO Box 160, Savusavu. • Taveuni - Taveuni Magistrate's Court, Telephone: 8880081, PO Box 31, Taveuni.

LEGAL TERMS, FORMS AND FEES



WHAT IF I CANNOT AFFORD TO PAY?

You can apply in writing to the Registrar of the Family Court. The Registrar will look at your financial situation (how much you earn and your other commitments) and will decide whether or not you are required to pay any court fees.

MAGISTRATES COURT

FILING FEES

Form 1	Application for Dissolution of Marriage	\$ 56.25
Form 3	Application for Declaration of Validity of Marriage	\$ 56.25
Form 4	Responses to Form 1, 2 and 3	\$ 56.25
Form 5	Application for Maintenance and Contribution	No Fee
Form 6	Response to Form 5	No Fee
Form 7	Application for Contempt Proceedings	No Fee
Form 8	Application for Consent Orders	No Fee
Form 9	Application for Final Orders	\$ 56.25
Form 10	Response to Form 9	\$ 56.25
Form 11	Response to Form 10	\$ 56.25
Form 12	Application for Interim Orders and Child Recovery	No Fee
Form 13	Response to Form 12	No Fee
Form 14	Notice Seeking Counseling	No Fee
Form 15	Notice of Child Abuse	No Fee
Form 16	Application for Registration of Parenting Plans	No Fee
Form 17	Consent to Register Parenting Plan	No Fee
Form 18	Child Recovery Order Form	No Fee
Form 19	Financial Statement Form	No Fee
Form 20	Notice of Address for Service Form	No Fee
Form 21	Acknowledgement of Service Form	No Fee
Form 22	Affidavit of Service Form	No Fee
Form 23	Affidavit	No Fee
Form 24	Cover Sheet	No Fee
Form 25	Notice of Discontinuance	No Fee
Form 26	Appeal from Magistrates Court to High Court	\$112.50
Search Fees		\$ 11.25
Subpoena		\$ 5.63
Notice of Change/Appointment of Solicitors		\$ 5.63
Orders (sealing of)		\$ 5.63
Photocopy fees	\$ 0.50 per page [VEP]	
Copy Records	\$ 0.50 per page [VEP]	
Judgment Debtor Summons.		\$11.25
Late Filing Fee		\$11.25
Submissions		No Fee

HEARING FEES

Forms 1, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11 [defended matters only] \$ 56.25 per day

HIGH COURT FILING FEES

Form 2	Application for Nullity of Marriage	\$112.50
Form 4	Responses to Form 1, 2 and 3	\$112.50
Form 26	Appeal from High Court to Fiji Court of Appeal	\$225.00

Search Fees	\$ 11.25
Subpoena	\$ 22.20
Notice of Change/Appointment of Solicitors	\$ 22.50
Orders	\$ 11.25
Photocopy fees	\$ 1.00 per page

For Supplying a transcript of notes of proceedings per typed page [minimum \$5.00]	\$1.00 per page
Submissions	No Fee
Late Filing fee	\$22.50

HEARING FEES

Forms 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11 \$112.50 per day

GUIDE TO LEGAL TERMS

AFFIDAVIT

This is a formal sworn statement of fact that you have sworn or affirmed to be true, in front of a Justice of the Peace or Commissioner for Oaths or Lawyer, setting out the facts of your case (your evidence) to be considered by Magistrate or Judge. This Affidavit is filed in Court as part of your case.

APPLICANT

This is what you are called if you are bringing an application or request before the court e.g. if you apply for dissolution of marriage or marriage, you are the Applicant and your husband or wife becomes the Respondent.

CASE ASSESSMENT CONFERENCE (CAC)

This is usually the first Court meeting in property or children cases, where you meet with the Family Court Registrar or Court Counsellor who will discuss your issues with you.

CONCILIATION CONFERENCE

A meeting organized by the Family Court Registrar with you and your lawyer together with your partner and his/her lawyer. The purpose of this meeting is to try and reach an agreement on the issues in your case. The Registrar will direct parties to file a Terms of Settlement if a settlement is reached between parties, and if there is no settlement, the Registrar will make directions for parties to follow and be ready for trial before the Magistrate/Judge.

CONDITIONAL ORDER

A Conditional Order is an order made by the Magistrate in Divorce cases. It is a temporary order which will become final after one month and one day from the date the conditional order is granted.

DIRECTIONS

Instructions given by the Judge, Magistrate or Registrar which you must follow to move your case forward.

DISCOVERY

A process where you give the other side (other party) a list of all the documents that you have relating to your case e.g. birth certificates, bank statements, FNPF records.

DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE This is the legal term for divorce.

FILE

When you lodge a document in the Court Registry and have it stamped with the seal of the Court e.g. when you take a filled-in form to the Court Registry where they check it and stamp it.

FINAL ORDER

A Final Order is a permanent order that is made by the Court. It is also the Order made after one month and one day after the Conditional Order in Divorce cases.

INTERIM ORDER

This is a temporary Order which will continue until there is another order of the Court. It is not final or permanent but made on an interim basis.

INJUNCTION

It is a Court Order where somebody has to do, or stop from doing, certain acts.

ORDER

Any decision of the Court which is legally binding on both parties – a ruling by the Court which everyone must follow.

PARTNER

It can mean your current or former husband or wife, boyfriend, or girlfriend; the father of your child; the person with whom you now live or used to live in a de facto relationship; or someone you have recently dated.

PARTY/PARTIES

Person or persons involved in the case.

RESPONDENT

This is what you are called if someone brings a case against you, as you are the other party in that matter.

RESTRAINING ORDER

A restraining order is a Court order which requires one person to stop harming another person. It is a form of legal injunction taken out in Family Court cases.