

County

Judicial District:	_____
Court File Number:	_____
Case Type:	_____

Petitioner

vs.

Respondent

**Statement of Rights
First Court Appearance
on Paternity Proceedings**

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:
 - waive (give up) my right to have an attorney.

