

TITLE IV
Chapter 24 - Procedure
Rule 24.6 - Restrictions on Preparation of Answers or Other Pleadings; Procedure When a Self-Represented Party Has Filed an Answer
Appendix 24.6 - Court-Specific Rules Restricting the Preparation of Answers or Other Pleadings; Procedure When a Self-Represented Party Has Filed an Answer

**First Judicial District
Court**

Parish of Caddo

**Second Judicial District
Court**

**Parishes of Bienville,
Claiborne and Jackson**

**Third Judicial District
Court**

**Parishes of Lincoln and
Union**

A. In every suit for a separation from bed and board and/or divorce, the attorney for the plaintiff shall not prepare the defendant's answer, nor in any manner advise or assist in the preparation thereof. In the trial of any case, either upon confirmation of a preliminary default or upon the merits, the Minute Clerk shall record and keep the names of all witnesses who testify, and the testimony of all such witnesses shall be recorded by the official Court Reporter.

B. In each separation or divorce case where an answer is filed by the defendant in proper person, the trial may not proceed unless either the defendant is present in court, or the plaintiff shows by competent evidence that the defendant was notified in writing of the date and hour scheduled for the trial, which notice must have been given to defendant not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the trial.

C. In separation and divorce suits on the merits, when issues of alimony, child support, custody and/or visitation are unresolved, the provisions of Rule 23.0 ("Pre-Hearing Exchange of Information"), Rule 29.1 ("Joint Custody Implementation Plans"), Rule 29.2 ("Parenting Classes"), and Rule 29.3 ("Mediation") shall apply.

**Fourth Judicial District
Court**

**Parishes of Morehouse
and Ouachita**

Confirmations of default requiring testimony

Except in regard to stipulations of fact, orders or judgments, no matters will be considered in which an attorney has prepared a pleading or document for an unrepresented party opposing his client.

**Fifth Judicial District
Court**

**Parishes of Franklin,
Richland and West
Carroll**

**Sixth Judicial District
Court**

**Parishes of East Carroll,
Madison and Tensas**

**Seventh Judicial District
Court**

**Parishes of Catahoula
and Concordia**

**Eighth Judicial District
Court**

Parish of Winn

In a case where a curator ad hoc is appointed to represent an absent defendant, he may not file an answer before the expiration of 15 days from the date of service is made upon him by the Sheriff or acceptance of service.

Any answer or other pleading, either prepared, filed on in any manner directly or indirectly handled, or any advice given by counsel to the party other than the one he represents, will justify the Court in rejecting the demand.

**Ninth Judicial District
Court**

Parish of Rapides

In a case where an attorney is appointed to represent an absent defendant, he may not file an answer before the expiration of fifteen days from the date of service is made upon him by the Sheriff or acceptance of service, except in cases where the appointed attorney has communicated with, and has had a reply from, the defendant. .

Counsel for the plaintiff shall not prepare an answer for the defendant or assist or advise in its preparation.

**Tenth Judicial District
Court**

Parish of Natchitoches

**Eleventh Judicial District
Court**

Parish of Sabine

**Twelfth Judicial District
Court**

Parish of Avoyelles

**Thirteenth Judicial
District Court**

Parish of Evangeline

**Fourteenth Judicial
District Court**

Parish of Calcasieu

**Fifteenth Judicial District
Court**

**Parishes of Acadia,
Lafayette and Vermilion**

**Sixteenth Judicial
District Court**

**Parishes of Iberia, St.
Martin and St. Mary**

**Seventeenth Judicial
District Court**

Parish of Lafourche

**Eighteenth Judicial
District Court**

**Parishes of Iberville,
Pointe Coupee and West
Baton Rouge**

**Nineteenth Judicial
District Court**

**Parish of East Baton
Rouge**

**Family Court, Parish of
East Baton Rouge**

**For the Parish of East
Baton Rouge**

**Twentieth Judicial
District Court**

Parishes of East Feliciana

and West Feliciana

**Twenty-First Judicial
District Court**

**Parishes of Livingston,
St. Helena and
Tangipahoa**

**Twenty-Second Judicial
District Court**

**Parishes of St. Tammany
and Washington**

**Twenty-Third Judicial
District Court**

**Parishes of Ascension,
Assumption and St.
James**

**Twenty-Fourth Judicial
District Court**

Parish of Jefferson

**Twenty-Fifth Judicial
District Court**

Parish of Plaquemines

**Twenty-Sixth Judicial
District Court**

**Parishes of Bossier and
Webster**

In all such suits the plaintiff’s original petition shall be served by the Sheriff, unless, after suit is filed, the defendant or an attorney appointed to represent him shall personally waive citation before a Deputy Clerk of this Court or a Notary Public other than the attorney for the plaintiff. The attorney for the plaintiff shall not prepare the defendant's answer or other pleading, nor in any manner advise or assist in the preparation thereof, not even if the defendant desires to appear in proper person and requests such action by the attorney.

**Twenty-Seventh Judicial
District Court**

Parish of St. Landry

Twenty-Eighth Judicial

District Court
Parish of LaSalle

Twenty-Ninth Judicial
District Court
Parish of St. Charles

Thirtieth Judicial District
Court
Parish of Vernon

Thirty-First Judicial
District Court
Parish of Jefferson Davis

In each separation or divorce case where an answer is filed by the defendant in propria persona, the trial may not proceed unless either the defendant is present in Court, or the plaintiff shows by competent evidence that the defendant was notified in writing of the date and hour scheduled for the trial which notice must have been given to defendant not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of trial.

Thirty-Second Judicial
District Court
Parish of Terrebonne

Thirty-Third Judicial
District Court
Parish of Allen

In each separation or divorce case where an answer is filed by the defendant in propria persona, the trial may not proceed unless either the defendant is present in court, or the plaintiff shows by competent evidence that the defendant was notified in writing of the date and hour scheduled for the trial which notice must have been given to defendant not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the trial.

Thirty-Fourth Judicial
District Court
Parish of St. Bernard

Thirty-Fifth Judicial
District Court
Parish of Grant

Counsel for the plaintiff shall not prepare an answer for the defendant or assist or advise in its preparation.

The defendant shall be served by the sheriff; the plaintiff shall not make service.

Thirty-Sixth Judicial
District Court

A. Counsel for plaintiff shall not prepare an answer for the defendant or assist or advise in its preparation. An answer signed by the defendant in his proper person may not be filed unless it shows

Parish of Beauregard

defendant’s mailing address thereon.

B. Where an answer is filed by the defendant in proper person, the trial may not proceed unless the defendant is either present in court, or it is established that defendant has been notified in writing of the scheduled time for the trial, which notice shall be given by the Clerk of Court to the defendant at the address shown on defendant's answer at least ten days prior to the date of the trial. A copy of the notice of trial shall be filed in the record. The Court may, in its discretion, receive other evidence of notice.

Thirty-Seventh Judicial District Court

Parish of Caldwell

Rule repealed by court effective July 1, 2023.

Thirty-Eighth Judicial District Court

Parish of Cameron

Thirty-Ninth Judicial District Court

Any answer, or other pleading, either prepared, filed or in any manner directly or indirectly handled, or any advice given by counsel to the party, other than the one he represents, should be avoided.

Parish of Red River

Fortieth Judicial District Court

Parish of St. John the Baptist

Civil District Court

Parish of Orleans

Criminal District Court

Parish of Orleans

Forty-Second Judicial District Court

Parish of DeSoto

