

APPENDIX 24.6: COURT-SPECIFIC RULES RESTRICTING THE PREPARATION OF ANSWERS OR OTHER PLEADINGS; PROCEDURE WHEN A SELF-REPRESENTED PARTY HAS FILED AN ANSWER

COURT	PARISHES	COURT-SPECIFIC RULES RESTRICTING THE PREPARATION OF ANSWERS OR OTHER PLEADINGS; PROCEDURE WHEN A SELF-REPRESENTED PARTY HAS FILED AN ANSWER
3 rd J.D.C.	Lincoln and Union Parishes	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
4 th J.D.C.	Morehouse and Ouachita Parishes	<p>Confirmations of default requiring testimony</p> <p>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.</p>
8 th J.D.C.	Winn Parish	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
9 th J.D.C.	Rapides Parish	<p>In a case where an attorney is appointed to represent an absent defendant, he may not file an answer before the expiration of</p>

		<p>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. .</p> <p>Counsel for the plaintiff shall not prepare an answer for the defendant or assist or advise in its preparation.</p>
26 th J.D.C.	Bossier and Webster Parishes	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.
31 st J.D.C.	Jefferson Davis Parish	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.
33 rd J.D.C.	Allen Parish	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.
35 th J.D.C.	Grant Parish	<p>Counsel for the plaintiff shall not prepare an answer for the defendant or assist or advise in its preparation.</p> <p>The defendant shall be served by the sheriff; the plaintiff shall not make service.</p>
36 th J.D.C.	Beauregard Parish	<p>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 defendant's mailing address thereon.</p> <p>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.</p>

37 th J.D.C.	Caldwell Parish	<p>A. No action on the merits in any separation or divorce proceeding shall be conducted sooner than fifteen (15) days after the filing of the original petition. No domestic case shall be considered on its merits unless based upon formal service of process and citation. Waivers of service and citation will not be recognized by the Court in this type of proceeding.</p> <p>B. All litigants are expected to allege the full date and year of birth of any and all children involved in separation, divorce and custody matters.</p> <p>C. No attorney shall prepare an answer to his own client's petition even in those instances in which the defendant may indicate willingness to appear in proper person and agree to dual representation.</p> <p>D. A curator ad hoc appointed to represent an absent defendant may not file an answer before the expiration of ten (10) days from the date of service, except in cases in which he has communicated with and has a reply from the defendant and he certifies such fact in his responsive pleadings.</p> <p>E. These rules shall in no way limit the Court's authority to issue orders or conduct hearings in reference to preliminary matters such as alimony or child support, custody or property management pendente lite.</p>
39 th J.D.C.	Red River Parish	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.