



ACCESS CENTER DISSO A-Z

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES

Q: My divorce papers have been served, what do I need to do next?

A: You are required to complete and exchange your financial disclosures with the other party within 60 days of filing your case. If you filed a Response, you are required to complete and exchange your financial disclosures within 60 days of filing the Response. The first disclosure packet you complete is called the preliminary declaration of disclosure. Depending on your situation, you may also need to complete and exchange a second (final) disclosure packet. You and the other party cannot agree to waive preliminary declaration of disclosures, even if you both agree to do so. Preliminary declaration of disclosure is MANDATORY.

You must complete and exchange financial disclosures EVEN if you and the other party do not own or owe property together.

You must complete and exchange financial disclosures EVEN if you do not own or owe any property or do not have income.

Q: What are financial disclosures?

A: California law requires that you and the other party give each other written information about what you own, what you owe, your income, and expenses.

This is to ensure that you and the other party are aware of everything you each own and owe, separately and together, so you can fairly divide your assets and debts according to the law. It also gives you the financial information you need to make decisions about child and spousal or partner support.

You cannot get divorced if you do not complete your financial disclosures. If you leave any assets or debts out of your paperwork, either by mistake or on purpose, your property division order may be set aside (canceled). If the court finds that you left anything out or purposely lied on your disclosure forms, the court may order that any property you did not list goes to your former spouse or domestic partner.

Q: What forms do I need to complete financial disclosures?

A: You will need to complete and provide the following forms and documents available at <https://www.courts.ca.gov/forms.htm>:

- Form FL-140, Declaration of Disclosure
- Form FL-142, Schedule of Assets and Debts (with supporting documents attached)
- Form FL150, Income and Expense Declaration (with current proof of income attached)
- Your tax returns for the past 2 years (even if you filed jointly)

Q: How do I complete financial disclosure forms?

A: Instructions are available at <https://www.courts.ca.gov/1230.htm>.

It is important you go through each form very thoroughly. Do not skip or leave anything blank. For example, on Form FL-142 Schedule of Assets and Debts, under Item No. 1, Real Estate, if you do not own a house, write in "n/a" or none.

ITEM NO.	ASSETS DESCRIPTION	SEP. PROP	DATE ACQUIRED	CURRENT GROSS FAIR MARKET VALUE	AMOUNT OF MONEY OWED OR ENCUMBRANCE
1.	REAL ESTATE <i>(Give street addresses and attach copies of deeds with legal descriptions and latest lender's statement.)</i>			\$	\$
	NONE				

Q: What do I do after I completed all the financial disclosure forms?

A: When you have completed all the above forms with the required supporting documents attached to the forms, make one photocopy of the entire set. Keep the original set for your records and give the copies to the other party.

Q: How do I give the financial disclosure forms to my spouse or domestic partner?

A: You can either mail the copies of your financial disclosure forms with the required attachments and tax returns to the other party; OR deliver in person the copies of your financial disclosure forms with the required attachments and tax returns to the other party.

Q: What do I do after I provide the other party with my financial disclosures?

A: Complete Form FL-141 Declaration Regarding Service of Declaration of Disclosure. Form FL-141 is proof to the court that you've completed and served your financial disclosures on the other party. Once you complete form FL-141, make one copy and bring or submit the original and copy of both forms to file at the Civic Center Courthouse, 400 McAllister Street, Room 402, San Francisco, CA 94102. The clerk will file the original form and keep it in your court file. The clerk will stamp the copy and return to you for your records. If you submit your original and copy by mail, you must include a self-addressed-stamped-envelope. DO NOT file any of your financial disclosure forms, or confidential documents with the court, (except for form FL-150, if applicable). Once a document is filed, the document becomes public record. That means anyone can have access to it.

You will also need to file form FL-150 unless you and the other party were married for less than 10 years (from date of marriage to date of separation), do not have minor children together and will finalize your case with a written agreement to waive spousal support and terminate the court's jurisdiction to award spousal support for both parties.