
Nova Scotia ISO FormSupport

Form N

Respondent's Answer to Application

The package of documents you have received is an application to the Nova Scotia court. This application is from a person in a "reciprocating jurisdiction" who is asking the Nova Scotia court to make an order.

What's a "reciprocating jurisdiction"?

Nova Scotia has arrangements with each of the Canadian provinces and territories, and many foreign countries, to deal with support orders. Each of these places is a "reciprocating jurisdiction". There is a list in the regulations under the *Interjurisdictional Support Orders (ISO) Act*. When two places reciprocate it means that they recognize each other's support orders, and support orders can be made, changed, and enforced using reciprocal laws. People involved in family support (also called 'maintenance') cases do not have to travel to another province, territory, or country to have a court deal with their orders.

The person who has made this application is in one of the "reciprocating jurisdictions". The application will be dealt with by the Nova Scotia court. The Nova Scotia court will make an order.

In most cases, the person applying for an order will have filed a Form F. This is a request to the court to make an order *even if you do not go to court, or file necessary documents*. The court *can* make an order if you do not go to court, and that order will be legal. If you want a say in the order the court will make, it is important that you read this ISO FormSupport guide, and the package of documents you received.

Have you read the documents you received? Form A is the one which gives a summary of what the claimant or applicant is asking for.

<p>The person applying for an order is the: Claimant - if this is an application for a 'first' support order, or Applicant - if this is an application to change an order you have now. You are the Respondent. You are 'responding' to the application.</p>

You have been served with a Notice of Hearing/Notice of Confirmation Hearing. The Notice sets out in detail the information and documents that you are required to file with the court within 20 days of service of the Notice upon you.

Form N (Respondent's Answer) contains information about your name and address. Form K (Financial Statement) and Form L (Child Status and Financial Statement) contain all of the financial information that the Notice requires you to file with the Court. While you are required to file the information in the preceding paragraph, it is not mandatory that this information be provided in Form N, K or L. At this time these are not prescribed forms but have been prepared to assist you in ensuring that all of the required information is provided to the court. For this reason you may wish to use these form but you are not obligated to do so as long as you provide the information outlined in Schedule "A" attached to the Notice of Hearing or Notice of Confirmation that you have received.

Please note: There may be other evidence that you will need to provide to the Court if you are contesting the application. You are advised to consult a lawyer.

Office Use Only box, top right

The court may have filled in the court file #, court location, and reciprocal #. If you need to contact the court, you should always quote the court file #. If this box has not been filled in, the numbers are on the Application you received. Copy them onto your "working" copy.

Identification

There are two check boxes on the left of Form N. You are the respondent, so you will check off the first one. The second box would be checked by an agency which has a right to be involved. For example: If you are a support recipient who has assigned maintenance rights to the Department of Community Services (DCS), DCS may want to be in court, and receive any order that is made.

In the box, write your name, address, telephone and fax numbers. If you are not comfortable with the applicant knowing your home address, you can choose another address to receive documents. Check off whether it is your own address, in care of your lawyer, or in care of another person. This is the address and contact numbers the court will use to get in touch with you, and to send you any mail. This information will be on the court file. If you need to keep your address confidential, you must give a different address where you can be reached.

You have an obligation to keep the court informed of any change of address. It is very important that you update the court if any of your contact information changes.

' I attach a sworn statement of my financial circumstances.

Even if you agree with everything the claimant or applicant is asking for, you must still complete a sworn financial statement for the court. A blank Form K and guide for completing it are enclosed with your package. If the application includes a claim of undue

hardship respecting child support, your financial statement must include the name and sources of income of all persons with whom you reside or with whom you share living expenses or from whom you receive any benefit.

' I attach a sworn statement to provide information about the child's financial and other circumstances.

If support for a child over the age of majority is claimed or is in issue, you must provide a sworn statement to provide information about the child's financial and other circumstances. The child status and financial statement (Form L) may be used for this purpose.

' I Will Have a Lawyer

If you choose to have a lawyer with you at court, check the box on your working copy of Form N. On the lines, write your lawyer's name, address, and telephone number. With this information, the court will contact your lawyer directly.