



WADE TAYLOR (10144)
LAW OFFICES OF WADE TAYLOR
34 SOUTH 500 EAST #105
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84102
TELEPHONE (801) 538-0066
EMAIL: wadetayloresq@gmail.com

Attorney - Mediator

*Filing on behalf of both parties as a Third-Party Neutral,
pursuant to Rule 2.4 of the Utah Rules of Professional Conduct*

**IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, SALT LAKE CITY DEPARTMENT
IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH**

In the matter of the marriage of MORAG SHEPHERD, Petitioner, and MITCHELL SHEPHERD, Respondent.	DECREE OF DIVORCE Case No: 264903817 Judge: Dianna Gibson Commissioner: Joanna Sagers
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The Petitioner, Morag Shepherd, and the Respondent, Mitchell Shepherd, have entered into a written Stipulation resolving all outstanding divorce issues, which has been filed with the court. The Court has received and accepted the parties' Agreement, reviewed the file, and being otherwise duly advised, having previously signed and entered its Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

The bonds of matrimony existing between Petitioner and Respondent are hereby dissolved. In addition, all other remaining issues in this matter, outlined below, are to become final and absolute upon entry by the court.

CHILD CUSTODY AND PARENT-TIME

1. There are two minor children born or adopted between the parties, to wit: A.S. (born July 2009) and F.S. (born December 2012).
2. The parties are awarded joint legal custody of the minor children. The parties shall be governed by the Joint Custody Parenting Plan set forth herein.
3. The parties are awarded joint physical custody of the minor children. Parent-time with the minor children shall be pursuant to a 50/50 timesharing arrangement as the parties may agree. If the parties are unable to agree on a parent-time schedule then they shall follow a week-on/week-off schedule with exchanges to occur on Monday after school or 5:30 p.m. if school is not in session.
4. Each parent is entitled to 2 weeks of uninterrupted parent-time during the summer months when the minor children are free from school. The parents will notify each other by May 15th of each year of the time period he/she will be exercising his/her uninterrupted parent-time. Petitioner will have first option of uninterrupted time period in calendar years ending in an even number and Respondent will have first option of uninterrupted time period in calendar years ending in an odd number. The summer parent-time cannot interfere with the other parent's holiday. If the parent designated to first choose the 2-week period for the year fails to choose by May 15th, the non-designated parent may designate when the 2-week period will occur.

5. In addition, holiday parent-time shall be as the parties agree. If they do not agree, then the parties shall follow the holiday parent-time schedule as set forth below:

Holiday	Holiday Time Period	Petitioner (Morag)	Respondent (Mitchell)
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day	(1) Holiday begins (a) at the time that school is dismissed for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day; or (b) Friday at 5:30 p.m. at the election of the parent granted the holiday. (2) Holiday ends upon delivering of the minor child to school on the day that school resumes.	Odd Years	Even Years
President's Day	(1) Holiday begins (a) at the time that school is dismissed for Presidents' Day; or (b) Friday at 5:30 p.m. at the election of the parent granted the holiday. (2) Holiday ends upon delivering the minor child to school on the day that school resumes.	Even Years	Odd Years
Spring Break	(1) Holiday begins at: (a) the time school is dismissed for spring break; or (b) 5:30 p.m. on the day that school dismisses for spring break at the election of the parent granted the holiday. (2) Holiday ends upon delivering the minor child to school on the day that school resumes.	Odd Years	Even Years
Memorial Day	(1) Holiday begins (a) at the time that school is dismissed for Memorial Day; or (b) Friday at 5:30 p.m. at the election of the parent granted the holiday. (2) Holiday ends: (a) upon delivering the minor child to school on the day following Memorial Day; or (b) at 8 a.m. on the day following Memorial Day if there is no school.	Even Years	Odd Years
Mother's Day	(1) Holiday begins at 5:30 p.m. on the day before Mother's Day. (2) Holiday ends on Mother's Day at 8:30 p.m.	Every year with Mother	Every year with Mother
Father's Day	(1) Holiday begins at 5:30 p.m. on the day before Father's Day. (2) Holiday ends on Father's Day at 8:30 p.m.	Every year with Father	Every year with Father
Juneteenth National Freedom Day	(1) Holiday begins at: (a) 5:30 p.m. on the day before Juneteenth National Freedom Day if the day before Juneteenth National Freedom Day is not Father's Day; or (b) 8 a.m. on Juneteenth National Freedom Day if the day before Juneteenth National Freedom Day is Father's Day. (2) Holiday ends at 5:30 p.m. on the day following Juneteenth National Freedom Day.	Even Years	Odd Years

Independence Day	(1) Holiday begins on July 3rd at 5:30 p.m. (2) Holiday ends on July 5th at 8:30 p.m.	Odd Years	Even Years
Pioneer Day	(1) Holiday begins on July 23rd at 5:30 p.m. (2) Holiday ends on July 25th at 8:30 p.m.	Even Years	Odd Years
Labor Day	(1) Holiday begins (a) at the time that school is dismissed for Labor Day; or (b) Friday at 5:30 p.m. at the election of the parent granted the holiday. (2) Holiday ends upon delivering the minor child to school on the day that school resumes.	Odd Years	Even Years
Fall Break	(1) Holiday begins at: (a) the time that school is dismissed for fall break; or (b) 5:30 p.m. on the day that school dismisses for fall break at the election of the parent granted the holiday. (2) Holiday ends upon delivering the minor child to school on the day that school resumes.	Odd Years	Even Years
Halloween	(1) Holiday begins on October 31st or the day that Halloween is traditionally celebrated in the local community: (a) at the time that school is dismissed; or (b) at 3 p.m. if there is no school. (2) Holiday ends at 8:30 p.m. on the same day the holiday begins.	Even Years	Odd Years
Thanksgiving	(1) Holiday begins at: (a) the time that school is dismissed for Thanksgiving; or (b) 5:30 p.m. on the day that school dismisses for Thanksgiving at the election of the parent granted the holiday. (2) Holiday ends upon delivering the minor child to school on the day that school resumes.	Even Years	Odd Years
Winter Break (First Half)	(1) Holiday begins at: (a) the time that school dismisses for winter break; or (b) 5:30 p.m. on the day that school dismisses for winter break at the election of the parent granted the holiday. (2) Holiday ends on December 27th at 8:30 p.m.	Odd Years	Even Years
Winter Break (Second Half)	(1) Holiday begins on December 27th at 8:30 p.m. (2) Holiday ends upon delivering the minor child to school on the day that school resumes after the winter break.	Even Years	Odd Years
Day of Child's Birthday	(1) Holiday begins at 3 p.m. (2) Holiday ends at 8:30 p.m.	Even Years	Odd Years
Day Before or After Child's Birthday	(1) Holiday begins at 3 p.m. (2) Holiday ends at 8:30 p.m.	Odd Years	Even Years

6. The minor children shall continue to attend their current school and feeder schools unless the parties mutually agree in writing to transfer schools. Both parties shall be listed in school records as a point of contact for school communications.

7. In the event either party moves more than 30 miles away from their current residence the parties will revisit the issue of parent time and custody.

CHILD SUPPORT

8. Petitioner is currently unemployed, however based on her experience and ability to work, it is reasonable and appropriate to impute her to a gross monthly income of \$3,466.00 for the purposes of calculating child support.

9. Respondent is currently employed and has a gross monthly income of \$7,928.00 for the purposes of calculating child support.

10. The joint custody worksheet shall be used with the Petitioner's income set at \$3,466.00 with 183 overnights and the Respondent's income set at \$7,928.00 with 182 overnights.

11. Pursuant to U.C.A. §81-6-101 a child support order shall be entered pursuant to the statutory guidelines as follows:

a. Respondent shall be ordered to pay Petitioner the sum of \$376.00 per month beginning August 1, 2026. The sum is known as the base child support award, for the minor child of the parties, pursuant to the Uniform Child Support Guidelines, until a child becomes 18 years of age, or has graduated from high school during the child's normal and expected year of graduation, whichever

occurs later. When a child becomes 18 years of age or has graduated from high school during the child's normal and expected year of graduation, whichever occurs later, the base child support award is automatically adjusted based on the remaining children and the incomes from the most recent support order.

b. The base child support award should be reduced by 50% for each minor child for time periods during which such minor child is with the noncustodial parent by order for at least 25 of any 30 consecutive days. If the dependent child is a recipient of Public Assistance from the State of Utah (T.A.N.F.), any agreement by the parties for reduction of child support during extended parent time shall be approved by the Office of Recovery Services. However, normal parent time and holiday visits to the custodial parent shall not be considered an interruption of the consecutive day requirement.

c. The mandatory income withholding relief provisions of the Utah Code Annotated may be instituted at this time. Said income withholding procedure should apply to existing and future payors. All withheld income should be payable to the Office of Recovery Services, P.O. Box 45011, Salt Lake City, Utah 84145-0011 until such time as the obligor no longer owes child support to the obligee.

d. There are currently no child support arrearages.

e. Each of the parties should be under mutual obligation to notify the other if there is a change in income of more than 30% and the change is not temporary in nature.

f. Pursuant to Utah Code §81-6-212(5), the parties have a right to adjust this child support order by motion after three years from the date of its entry if (1) upon review there is a difference of 10% or more between the amount previously ordered and the new amount of child support under the Utah child support guidelines, calculated using the appropriate child support worksheet, (2) the difference is not of a temporary nature, and (3) the amount previously ordered does not deviate from the child support guidelines.

g. Pursuant to Utah Code §81-6-101 et seq, the parties have a right to modify this child support order at any time by petition if there has been a substantial change in circumstances because of: (i) material changes in custody; (ii) material changes in the relative wealth or assets of the parties; (iii) material changes of 30% or more in the income of a parent; (iv) material changes in the employment potential and ability of a parent to earn; (v) material changes in the medical needs of the child; or (vi) material changes in the legal responsibilities of either parent for the support of others, and, the change in (i) through (vi) results in a 15% or more difference between the amount previously ordered and the new amount of child support, calculated using the appropriate child support worksheet, and the difference is not of a temporary nature.

INSURANCE, DAYCARE AND MEDICAL EXPENSES

12. Pursuant to U.C.A. §81-6-208 (2024) as amended:

- a. Either Petitioner or Respondent should maintain insurance for medical expenses for the benefit of the minor children where available at a reasonable cost. In determining which parent shall maintain insurance for medical expenses, the parties shall consider the reasonableness of the cost, the availability of a group policy and the coverage of the policy. If the parties cannot agree on who shall carry the insurance, then they shall attend mediation. If insurance is being provided by a plan by both parents, the Respondent's insurance shall be considered primary coverage and the Petitioner's shall be considered secondary.
- b. The parties shall be equally responsible for all out-of-pocket costs of the premium actually paid by a parent for the children's portion of the insurance. The children's portion of the premium is a per capita share of the premium actually paid. The premium expenses for the children shall be calculated by dividing the premium amount by the number of persons covered under the policy and multiplying the result by the number of children. This amount shall be automatically deducted from or added to the child support paid or owed.
- c. Both parties shall share equally all medical expenses incurred for the minor child and actually paid by the parties. Medical expenses shall include, but not be limited to, the following: medical, dental, orthodontia, ophthalmological, psychological, or therapeutic, etc.
- d. The parent who incurs medical expenses shall provide written verification of the cost and payment of the medical expenses to the other parent within 30 days of payment.

- e. A parent incurring medical expenses may be denied the right to receive credit for the expenses or to recover the other parent's share of the expenses if that parent fails to provide written verification of the cost and payment of medical expenses to the other parent within 30 days of payment.
13. Pursuant to U.C.A. §81-6-209 both parties shall share equally the reasonable work-related childcare expenses of the parents. Due to the age of the children, daycare is not anticipated.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, SCHOOL, & MISCELLANEOUS COSTS

14. The parties shall equally share the costs associated with the following expenses related to the minor children:
- a. Cell phones
 - b. Car insurance
 - c. School fees and costs
 - d. Agreed upon extra-curricular activities. All current and extensions of the current extra-curricular activities where the children participate are approved.
 - e. Agreements for all expenses shall be made in writing. When possible, both parties should pay their one-half share directly to the provider, school or program for and on behalf of the children. If one parent pays the entire cost, that parent shall email the other parent proof of cost and payment within 30 days and the reimbursing parent shall pay their share within 10 days of receiving the email.

TAX EXEMPTION

15. The parties shall share equally in the child tax credit, exemption, or deduction for State and Federal income tax purposes as follows:

a. As long as there are two minor children, Petitioner will claim A.S. each year and Respondent will claim F.S. each year.

b. When only one minor child remains, the parties will alternate years with Petitioner claiming F.S. in odd years and Respondent claiming F.S. in even years.

16. For the Respondent to claim a minor child, he must be current on all his child support expenses prior to the end of the tax year.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

17. Prior to the marriage, the parties each had individually acquired certain separate property. Each party shall be awarded any property identified as premarital or separate property, including all gifts and inheritance.

18. During the course of the marriage, the parties acquired certain items of personal property.

19. Petitioner shall be awarded the dog known as Lily. Until Petitioner obtains a residence that permits pets, Lily shall remain in Respondent's care and possession. The parties shall be equally responsible for all reasonable veterinary expenses incurred on behalf of Lily, including routine and emergency veterinary care. Except in the event of a veterinary emergency requiring immediate treatment, any non-routine veterinary procedure or expense exceeding \$250.00 shall require the prior agreement of both parties.

20. Respondent shall be awarded the dog known as Winston. Respondent shall be responsible for all costs related to Winston.

21. All other personal property shall be divided among the parties in a fair and equitable fashion as agreed upon by the parties.

22. All property and all property rights which may be vested in either party as a result of family inheritance, trusts, or similar sources shall be awarded solely to the party from whose family it came.

VEHICLES

Vehicle	Awarded to Petitioner	Awarded to Respondent	Other
2016 Audi Q3			There is no loan against this vehicle. This vehicle shall be maintained for the benefit of the parties daughter. If vehicle is ever sold, proceeds shall be divided equally between the parties.
2011 Audi A4		X	There is no loan against this vehicle.
2023 GMC Acadia	X		Marital equity from the residence shall be used to satisfy the remaining loan balance on the GMC Acadia, which is currently estimated to be \$16,803.00. Respondent shall be responsible for withdrawing funds from the home and paying the GMC Acadia loan in full with those funds by December 31, 2026. Parties shall be equally responsible for minimum monthly payments until the loan is paid in

			full.
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23. Except as otherwise outlined, the parties shall take all necessary steps to transfer the vehicles into their own names within thirty (30) days of the date of entry of the Decree of Divorce.

REAL PROPERTY

24. During the course of the marriage, the parties acquired certain parcels of real property, including:

- a. Marital Residence located at 5032 W Daybreak Pkwy, South Jordan, Utah 84009

25. The marital residence shall be awarded to Respondent as Respondent's sole and separate property, subject to Petitioner's claim to fifty percent (50%) of the equity as set forth herein.

26. The parties acknowledge and agree that the fair market value of the residence is \$424,200.00 and that the outstanding mortgage balance is \$215,467.00, resulting in total equity of \$208,733.00. Accordingly, each party is awarded fifty percent (50%) of the equity, or \$104,366.50.

27. The parties further agree that marital equity from the residence shall be used to satisfy the following debts:

- a. The remaining loan balance on the GMC Acadia, which is currently estimated to be \$16,803.00; and
- b. Orthodontist bill for A.S. which is approximately \$2,871.00.

28. Respondent shall be responsible for withdrawing funds from the home and paying the debts in full with those funds. Because each party is responsible for one-half of the debts, the sum of \$9,837.00, representing Petitioner's fifty percent (50%) share of the estimated debt balances, shall be deducted from Petitioner's share of the equity in the marital residence.

29. Based upon the current estimated debt balances, Respondent shall pay Petitioner the net sum of \$94,529.50 on or before December 31, 2026. The final amount due to Petitioner shall be adjusted, if necessary, based upon the actual payoff amount of the debts at the time the debts are paid in full, with Petitioner being charged fifty percent (50%) of the actual payoff amount.

30. Respondent shall pay the debts in full on or before December 31, 2026 and shall provide Petitioner with reasonable documentation confirming the final payoff amount and satisfaction of the loans.

31. Upon payment of Petitioner's adjusted equity interest in full, Petitioner shall have no further right, title, or interest in the residence and shall execute any documents reasonably necessary to effectuate the transfer of any remaining interest.

32. Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the parties, if Respondent fails to pay Petitioner's adjusted equity interest by December 31, 2026, the residence shall be listed for sale within thirty (30) days with a mutually agreed-upon licensed realtor. If the parties are unable to agree upon a realtor, each party shall nominate one licensed realtor, and the parties shall mutually select one of the nominees.

33. Upon sale of the residence, the net proceeds, after payment of customary closing costs, commissions, liens, encumbrances, mortgages, and other costs of sale, shall be divided equally between the parties, subject to the allocation of the GMC Acadia loan described herein. Respondent shall receive a credit from Petitioner's share of the sale proceeds equal to fifty percent (50%) of the actual amount Respondent paid to satisfy the GMC Acadia loan, to the extent that such credit has not already been accounted for or reimbursed.

34. Beginning August 1, 2026, Respondent shall be solely responsible for all costs associated with the residence, including but not limited to the mortgage, property taxes, homeowner's insurance, utilities, maintenance, repairs, HOA dues, and any other expenses related to the property, and shall indemnify and hold Petitioner harmless from any liability arising therefrom.

35. The parties shall sign any quit claim deeds or any other documents necessary to transfer title or ownership of the property to Respondent within thirty (30) days of Petitioner receiving her 50% share of the equity.

BANK ACCOUNTS, PROFIT SHARING, STOCK OPTIONS, BONUSES,
INVESTMENT, RETIREMENT/PENSION ACCOUNTS AND OR/BUSINESS
INTERESTS

36. The parties have acquired and continue to acquire bank, profit sharing, stock options, bonuses, investment, retirement and/or pension accounts and business interests during the course of the parties' marriage.

37. All of these accounts or assets shall be divided as follows as of the date of entry of the Decree of Divorce unless specified otherwise:

Account Description	Petitioner will Receive	Respondent will Receive	Other
Wells Fargo checking account ending 6225 and savings account ending 3147	50%	50%	The balances in the parties' joint checking and savings accounts shall be determined as of August 1, 2026. Prior to division, the outstanding balances on the Delta SkyMiles credit card and the Costco credit card shall be paid in full from the funds in the accounts. After payment of those credit card balances, the remaining funds in the checking and savings accounts shall be divided equally between the parties, with each party receiving fifty percent (50%) of the remaining balance. The parties shall cooperate in completing the division of the accounts promptly following August 1, 2026. Once funds have been divided, the primary account holder shall be awarded the account(s).
Respondent's Charles Schwab IRA	\$112,541.00	All remaining funds minus Petitioner's award of \$112,541.00	The funds in this account were utilized to equalize the division of the parties' retirement accounts and the value of the vehicles awarded herein. If necessary, a Qualified Domestic Relation Order (QDRO) or Domestic Relations Order (DRO) shall be prepared to divide this account. Any fees associated with the above orders shall be split evenly

			between the parties.
Respondent's TSP Civilian account		100%	
Petitioner's Sera Prognostics Inc 401(K) Plan	100%		
Respondent's Paragon 401(K)		100%	
Respondent's Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) Retirement Benefits	50%	50%	This account shall be divided giving each party one-half of any account from the date of the parties' marriage until the date of the Decree of Divorce.

38. All retirement and/or investment accounts divided between the parties by percentage shall be distributed subject to any gains or losses on the accounts through the date of division. Any outstanding loans associated with the accounts shall be included in the valuation and division.

39. Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) Retirement Benefits: The parties acknowledge that Respondent participates in the Federal Employees Retirement System ("FERS"). Petitioner is awarded fifty percent (50%) of the marital portion of Respondent's FERS retirement benefits accrued through the date of entry of the Decree of Divorce. The parties shall cooperate in preparing, executing, and submitting a Court Order Acceptable for Processing ("COAP") that complies with the requirements of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to effectuate the division of Respondent's FERS retirement benefits as awarded herein. Each party shall execute any documents reasonably necessary to implement the COAP. Unless otherwise agreed, the parties shall

equally share the reasonable cost of preparing the COAP. Except as expressly provided in the COAP, each party shall retain his or her separate interest in any post-divorce accruals attributable solely to his or her own employment or contributions following the date of entry of the Decree of Divorce.

DEBTS AND OBLIGATIONS

40. During the course of the marriage the parties incurred certain marital debt; this debt shall be divided as set forth below.

Debt Description	Petitioner's Responsibility	Respondent's Responsibility	Other
Respondent's Mohela Student loans	50%	50%	Total amount ~ \$83,309.00 The parties shall be equally responsible for Respondent's student loans. Respondent shall remain solely responsible for making the required monthly payments directly to the lender and shall timely pay no less than the minimum monthly payment due. Petitioner shall reimburse Respondent for fifty percent (50%) of each required minimum monthly payment within ten (10) days after receiving written verification that the payment has been made. The parties' obligation to share the student loan

			payments shall continue until the loans are paid in full, forgiven, discharged, or otherwise satisfied. If any portion of the student loans is forgiven or discharged, neither party shall have any further obligation with respect to the forgiven or discharged balance.
American Express Delta SkyMiles Platinum credit card and Citi Costco credit card	50%	50%	These credit cards shall be paid in full with funds from the parties joint Wells Fargo checking and savings account as of August 1, 2026. Once the balances have been paid, Petitioner's shall be awarded and responsible for the credit cards.
2023 GMC Arcadia auto loan			

41. Pursuant to §81-4-204(1)(e), Utah Code Annotated, the parties shall notify respective creditors or obligors, regarding the court's division of debts, obligations, or liabilities and regarding the parties separate, current addresses.

LIFE INSURANCE

42. Pursuant to UCA §81-4-406 (3)(d), to the extent either party owns a life insurance policy or annuity contract, such party has reviewed and, where appropriate, updated the list of beneficiaries associated with said policy or contract. Each party affirms that the individuals currently designated as beneficiaries are, in fact, the intended beneficiaries following the entry of the Decree of Divorce. Each party further acknowledges and

understands that if no changes are made to the beneficiary designations, the individuals currently listed shall remain the beneficiaries and shall receive any funds disbursed by the insurance company or annuity provider pursuant to the terms of the respective policy or contract.

ALIMONY

43. Respondent shall be ordered to pay alimony to Petitioner as follows:
- a. Alimony payments shall begin August 2026.
 - b. Respondent shall pay Petitioner total spousal support in the amount of \$1,500.00 each month. This amount shall include both child support as previously set forth herein and alimony.
 - c. As such, with the current child support award of \$376.00 per month, alimony shall be \$1,124.00 per month.
 - d. As child support adjusts, alimony will likewise adjust to maintain the total spousal support award of \$1,500.00 per month.
 - e. Alimony payments should be paid by the fifth (5th) day of every month.
 - f. Alimony payments shall continue for the length of ten (10) years or until Petitioner cohabitates or remarries, whichever occurs sooner. Petitioner has an obligation to notify Respondent of her cohabitation or remarriage and alimony shall cease upon Petitioner's cohabitation or remarriage. Alimony shall end in the event of the death of either party.

TAX RETURN

44. The parties shall file taxes for the 2026 tax year as each deem appropriate.

ATTORNEY'S FEES

45. Each party shall be responsible for their own attorneys' fees and costs incurred in the litigation of this matter.

MISCELLANEOUS

46. Both parties shall be mutually restraining from bothering, harassing, annoying, threatening, disparaging, or harming the other party at the other party's place of residence, employment or any other place.

47. Both parties are restrained from using the likeness, image or credit of the other party for any purpose.

48. The parties each indicate that there has been a complete accurate and current disclosure of all income, assets and liabilities. Both parties understand and agree that any failure to provide complete disclosure may constitute perjury. The property referred to in this agreement represents all the property which either party has any interest in or right to, whether legal or equitable, owned in full or in part by either party separately or by the parties jointly.

49. This Decree of Divorce is the result of the Stipulated Settlement Agreement reached through mediation. The final documents were prepared as a service to both parties and shall not be interpreted against either as the "drafting party."

50. Each party should execute and cooperate in delivering to the other and to the court such documents as are required to implement the provisions of the divorce decree

hereafter to be entered by the court. Should a party fail to execute a document within 60 days of the entry of this divorce decree, the other party may bring a Motion to Enforce at the expense of the disobedient party and seek that the Court appoint some other person to execute the document pursuant to Rule 70 of the Utah Rules of Civil Procedure. Any document executed pursuant to Rule 70 has the same effect as if executed by the disobedient party.

51. Upon the filing of any Petition to change any provision of the final *Decree of Divorce*, the parties must first attempt to resolve the issue through mediation.

52. Petitioner may be restored to her maiden name of Plaice if she so desires.

SHEPHERD and SHEPHERD JOINT CUSTODY PARENTING PLAN

Each parent has a loving and valuable relationship with the children and shall work together cooperatively with regard to the children's physical care and financial and emotional support.

The parents shall adhere to the following parenting plan provisions:

1. Co-Parenting Principles

a. The Parties shall co-parent cooperatively, focusing on the physical, emotional, and financial well-being of the children.

b. Each parent shall support and encourage the children's meaningful relationship with the other parent.

- c. Civil communication is required at all times. Name-calling or hostile communication is prohibited.
- 2. Communication Between Parents
 - a. Primary communication shall occur via text or email, except in emergencies or time-sensitive situations.
 - b. Parents shall timely share important information regarding the children's schooling, health, social activities, and other relevant matters.
 - c. If information is available through public sources (e.g., school portals), each parent shall access it directly.
- 3. Joint Legal Decision-Making
 - a. The Parties shall jointly decide major decisions affecting the children, including:
 - i. Education and daycare
 - ii. Medical, dental, counseling, and orthodontic care
 - iii. Religious upbringing
 - iv. Extracurricular activities
 - b. Decision-making process:
 - i. Identify the issue
 - ii. Develop possible solutions
 - iii. Select the most reasonable solution in the children's best interests
- 4. Dispute Resolution for Major Decisions - If the parties cannot reach agreement:

- a. They may defer to the recommendations of an expert. If they still do not agree;
- b. They shall attend mediation with a mutually agreed mediator (each party pays their own fees).
- c. Agreements reached in mediation shall be reduced to writing and signed by both.
- d. Only after a good-faith mediation attempt may a party seek Court involvement.
- e. A party who frustrates this process may be ordered to pay the other's attorney's fees, court costs, and mediation costs.

5. Day-to-Day Responsibility

- a. The parent exercising parent-time shall make routine daily decisions.
- b. Either parent may make necessary emergency decisions regarding the children's health or safety and shall inform the other immediately.

6. Information Access

- a. Both parents shall have direct access to all school, medical, dental, and mental health records.
- b. Each parent shall notify the other of medical appointments and emergencies.
- c. Both parties shall provide written authorization enabling the other to access information from all providers.

7. School Access

- a. Both parents may visit the children at school, receive school communications, and check the children out when necessary.
 - b. Disputes regarding education shall first go to mediation.
- 8. Medical Treatment Restrictions
 - a. Non-emergency, uninsured, elective medical/dental/orthodontic or alternative treatments require prior written consent from both parties.
 - b. Costs must be agreed in writing before scheduling.
 - c. Violating parent may be denied reimbursement.
- 9. Travel Notice Requirements
 - a. Either parent may travel domestically with the minor children during their own parent-time without needing advance permission, provided they give standard notice.
 - b. Any international travel, or any travel that would interfere with the other parent's scheduled parent-time, must be mutually agreed to in advance and in writing.
 - c. When traveling with the children, the traveling parent shall provide the following, as required by Utah Code §81-9-202(19):
 - i. Itinerary with travel dates
 - ii. Destination(s)
 - iii. Contact information
 - iv. Name/phone of a third party aware of the children's location.
- 10. Children's Important Documents

a. The parties shall provide access to and exchange the minor children's important documents, including but not limited to passports, birth certificates, and Social Security cards, within forty-eight (48) hours of a request by the other parent. If the requested documents are not reasonably available due to a party being out of town or otherwise away from the documents, the documents shall be provided immediately upon that party's return. The parties shall cooperate in good faith to ensure timely access to such documents when needed for the benefit of the minor children.

11. Participation in Activities

a. Both parents may attend the children's school events, church functions, activities, recitals, and sports.

b. Parents shall cooperate to facilitate participation and family events (e.g., weddings, funerals, reunions, ceremonies).

12. Exchanges and Transportation

a. The receiving parent shall pick up the children at the designated start of their parent-time.

b. Children shall be ready on time for exchanges.

13. Contact Information

a. Each parent shall provide the other with current address, phone number, and email within 24 hours of any change.

14. Parent/Child Communication

- a. Each parent shall encourage free and uncensored reasonable phone/virtual communication with the other parent.
- b. The children may contact either parent at any time.
- c. A parent shall reasonably facilitate calls when requested by the children.

15. Right of First Refusal

- a. Parental care is preferred over surrogate care.
- b. If overnight child care is needed, the other parent shall be offered the opportunity to provide care before third-party caregivers are used.
- c. The parties shall create and maintain a mutually approved list of surrogate caregivers/babysitters who may be used by either parent without additional approval.
- d. Any caregiver not on the approved list must be mutually agreed upon in advance and in writing before caring for the minor children.
- e. Both parents shall provide names, addresses, and phone numbers of any caregivers used.

16. Conduct Around the Children

- a. Neither party shall speak negatively about the other parent or allow third parties to do so in the children's presence.
- b. Neither party shall discuss court matters with or in front of the children.
- c. Neither party shall disparage the other on social media or in public.

17. Introducing New Partners

- a. Parents shall not introduce dating partners to the children until the relationship is committed and exclusive.
 - b. Notice shall be given to the other parent beforehand.
- 18. Shared Calendar
 - a. Parents shall maintain a shared calendar for school events, appointments, practices, exchanges, and other child-related activities.
- 19. Substance Use Restrictions
 - a. Neither party shall use illegal drugs or consume alcohol to excess while caring for the children or prior to transporting them.
 - b. Alcohol and medications shall be stored securely and out of the children's reach.
- 20. Enforcement and Non-Waiver
 - a. A party's failure to comply with any provision does not release the other party from their obligations.
 - b. All provisions remain enforceable unless modified by written agreement or court order.

*****ENTERED BY THE COURT ON THE DATE AND AS INDICATED BY THE
COURT'S SEAL AT THE TOP OF THE FIRST PAGE*****

APPROVED AS TO FORM this 24th day of August 2026.

*E-signed by Wade Taylor
with permission of Morag Shepherd*

/s/ Morag Shepherd

MORAG SHEPHERD
Petitioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM this 25th day of August 2026.

*E-signed by Wade Taylor
with permission of Mitchell Shepherd*

/s/ Mitchell Shepherd

MITCHELL SHEPHERD
Respondent

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE & RULE 7 NOTICE

I hereby certify that on the 16th day of August 2026, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing *Proposed Decree of Divorce* to be served on the following by the method indicated below. Further, the Proposed Decree shall be submitted in accordance with Rule 7 of the *Utah Rules of Civil Procedure*.

EMAIL:

MORAG SHEPHERD
Petitioner
Email: moragshepherd@gmail.com

MITCHELL SHEPHERD
Respondent
Email: mtoddshep@gmail.com

LAW OFFICES OF WADE TAYLOR

/s/ Wade Taylor

WADE TAYLOR
Attorney