INSTRUCTIONS FOR FLORIDA SUPREME COURT APPROVED FAMILY LAW FORM 12.904(a)(2), PETITION FOR SUPPORT AND PARENTING PLAN UNCONNECTED WITH DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE WITH DEPENDENT OR MINOR CHILD(REN) (02/18)

When should this form be used?

This form may be used to ask the court to enter a support **order** if your spouse has the ability to contribute to you and your minor child(ren), but has failed to do so. It may also be used to establish a Parenting Plan with a time-sharing schedule. You can **only** use this form if a **dissolution of marriage** has not been filed **and** based upon the time-sharing schedule, you are entitled to support. If a petition for dissolution of marriage has been filed, you should file a **Motion for Temporary Support and Time-Sharing with Dependent or Minor Child(ren)**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.947(a), instead of using this **petition**. Also, if you are requesting that an order be entered for you to pay support to your spouse, you should not file this form.

This petition cannot address the issues of property or debts. It only deals with **alimony, child support, and Parenting Plans**.

This form should be typed or printed in black ink. After completing this form, you should sign the form before a **notary public** or **deputy clerk**. You should **file** the original with the **clerk of the circuit court** in the county where you live and keep a copy for your records. Because you are filing this **petition,** you are also referred to as the **petitioner** and your spouse as the **respondent.**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING E-FILING

The Florida Rules of Judicial Administration now require that all petitions, pleadings, and documents be filed electronically except in certain circumstances. **Self-represented litigants may file petitions or other pleadings or documents electronically; however, they are not required to do so.** If you choose to file your pleadings or other documents electronically, you must do so in accordance with Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.525, and you must follow the procedures of the judicial circuit in which you file. **The rules and procedures should be carefully read and followed.**

What should I do next?

For your case to proceed, you must properly notify your spouse of the petition. Because this petition concerns child support and alimony, you should use **personal service**. If your spouse is in the military service of the United States, additional steps for service may be required. See **Memorandum for Certificate of Military Service**, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law