Divorce Flowchart

Complaint filed by Petitioner

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Service on Respondent within 120 days

Answer filed by Respondent:
- 20 days in-state
- 30 days out-of-state

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If **children**:
Both parties attend two mandatory courses:
Divorce Education and **Divorce Orientation**

If **no children**:
90 Day Waiting Period.
Divorce Education and Orientation not required

No Answer filed by Respondent:
File final divorce documents, and

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If **children**:
Petitioner attends two mandatory courses:
Divorce Education and **Divorce Orientation** and files Motion to Waive Requirement for Respondent.

If **no children:**
90 Day Waiting Period, or Motion to Waive
Divorce Education and Orientation not required

OR

Temporary Orders (if needed)
Either party may file Motion for Temporary Orders (before or after mediation)

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Mandatory Mediation
If parties settle, then file final documents.
If parties do not settle, parties may proceed with temporary orders, discovery, or pre-trial.

Discovery (if needed)
Request to other party for information.
Examples: Interrogatories, Depositions, Request for Documents, Subpoenas

Custody Evaluation
(if custody is contested)

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Pre-Trial Settlement Conference with **Commissioner**.
File **Certification of Readiness for Tria**l and **Financial Declaration.**
If parties settle, read the agreement into record and file final documents.
If parties do not settle, certify to Judge.

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Pre-Trial Settlement Conference with **Judge**.
If parties settle, read the agreement into record and file final documents.
If parties do not settle, set for trial.

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Trial
File Decree of Divorce based on judge's decision