

11TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT
LONG DISTANCE PARENTING TIME GUIDELINES PARENTING TIME GUIDELINES
[AT LEAST TWO BUT NOT MORE THAN FIVE HOURS DRIVING TIME, ONE WAY.]

**(2019 UPDATED VERSION. THIS VERSION SHALL CONTROL
JUDGMENTS ENTERED AFTER JANUARY 1, 2019. IF YOUR
JUDGMENT CONTAINS DIFFERENT LANGUAGE THE LANGUAGE
IN YOUR JUDGMENT WILL CONTINUE TO CONTROL UNLESS
SPECIFICALLY CHANGED BY COURT ORDER.)**

The Court strongly encourages parents to work together to arrive at a parenting time schedule when there is a geographical distance between the parties of more than two but less than five hours driving time, one way. If the parties are unable to agree on a schedule, then the following policy shall control. If the parties reside more than five hours driving time apart, parenting time will have to be established on an individual basis.

Weekend Parenting Time

The non-custodial parent is entitled to one, three overnight parenting time each month during the school year. In months with extended parenting time that parenting time shall constitute the weekend parenting time. In other months, the three overnight weekend parenting time whenever possible shall be scheduled around a school holiday which falls on a Monday or Friday; i.e., President's Day, Martin Luther King Day. If in a given month there is no Monday or Friday off school the non-custodial parent is still entitled to one, three overnight weekend, with the child, taking Friday or Monday off from school.

Both parties are responsible for determining the school schedule. In general, the custodial parent shall provide a copy of the school schedule to the non-custodial parent. In addition, the non-custodial parent shall access by electronic means or otherwise the school schedule to determine when school holidays will fall to effectuate scheduling parenting time.

The one extended weekend parenting period is in lieu of holidays not specified below. That is, in the month where the parenting period falls, that will be the sole parenting period for that month.

Thanksgiving Break

In alternating years the non-custodial parent will have parenting time for Thanksgiving break from Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. to Sunday at 6:00 p.m. This shall constitute the long weekend in November. The custodial parent shall have parenting time over Thanksgiving in years ending in odd numbers, the non-custodial parent shall have Thanksgiving parenting time in years ending in even numbers.

Christmas Break

The non-custodial parent shall have parenting time for one full or one half of Christmas school break, whichever is greater. The custodial parent shall have parenting time for the first half of the Christmas break beginning the day school adjourns at 6:00 p.m. in years ending in even numbers and the non-custodial parent shall exercise parenting time in the second half ending the day before school reconvenes at 6:00 p.m. This will reverse in years ending in odd numbers. This parenting time shall constitute the long weekend in December.

Spring Break

In alternating years the non-custodial parent will exercise parenting time over spring break beginning the day school adjourns at 6:00 p.m. and ending the day before school reconvenes at 6:00 p.m. This shall constitute the long weekend in the month in which spring break falls. The custodial parent shall exercise spring break parenting time in years ending in even numbers, the non-custodial parent shall exercise spring break parenting time in years ending in odd numbers.

Summer Break

The non-custodial parent shall have eight full weeks parenting time during summer school recess. Summer parenting time may be exercised in two four week blocks or one eight week block depending upon the age of the child. No matter how it is exercised summer parenting time shall end on the Sunday one full week before school reconvenes for the fall.

Additional Parenting Time

The non-custodial parent is entitled to reasonable additional parenting time upon two days notice whenever that parent is in the geographical area of the child.

When the child is within 25 miles of the non-custodial parent the custodial parent must notify the non-custodial parent and offer reasonable parenting time.

Pre-School Age Children

If no child in the family is of school age, the non-custodial parent shall be entitled to seven overnights per month parenting time beginning the first Friday of each month. This provision takes precedence over the parenting time stated above. If there are both non-school age and school age children in the family, then the parenting time stated above shall apply.

Transportation

The parent exercising parenting time is responsible to pick up and transport the child at the beginning of parenting time and the other parent is responsible to pick up and transport the child at the end of parenting time. Transportation of the child is a part of the parenting time. Transportation should be generally provided by the parent. However, on occasion, a responsible adult, known to the child, can assist with transportation.

Late Pickup

There shall be a 30-minute waiting period. If the parent whose parenting time it is, without good cause, fails to arrive within the waiting period, the parenting time is forfeited. If it is a weekend it shall be the entire weekend and if it is a holiday it shall be the entire holiday. There will be no makeup and the Friend of the Court will take no enforcement action. The waiting period does not change the parenting time exchange times. A complaint for late pickup will be processed and a party considered late if a party arrives after the pickup time but within the waiting period.

Advance Notice of an Inability to Exercise Parenting Time

Parenting time is ordered because it is considered to be in the best interests of the child. It is expected both parents will assure that all scheduled parenting time occurs. The non-custodial parent shall arrange his/her schedule so parenting time will occur. In the event the non-custodial parent is unable to exercise scheduled parenting time, he/she shall give the custodial parent twenty-four (24) hours advance notice.

There are very few instances when the custodial parent can choose not to make the child available for parenting time. If, for example, the child is ill, the Friend of the Court will enforce a parenting time order unless the custodial parent produces a statement from a doctor that the child is too ill to exercise the parenting time. In the rare event the custodial parent cannot make the child available for parenting time he/she shall give the other party twenty-four (24) hours advance notice.

Telephone/Internet Contact

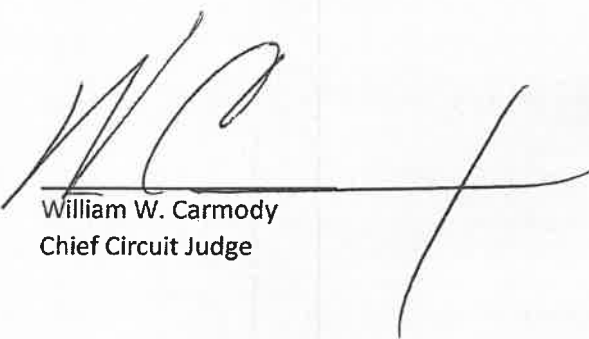
The non-custodial parent shall have reasonable contact with the child by telephone or other electronic means. When the child is with the non-custodial parent for extended periods of time, the custodial parent shall have similar reasonable contact.

Long Distance Parenting Time Offset

School Age Children: Non-Custodial Parent 89 Overnights
Custodial Parent 276 Overnights

Pre-School Age Children: Non-Custodial Parent 79 Overnights
Custodial Parent 286 Overnights

Dated: 1/24/19


William W. Carmody
Chief Circuit Judge