



# Sample Preview: DIY Divorce Packet

## Uncontested, No Minor Children

*A preview of what is inside the full packet.*

### **AUTHOR**

Christopher J. Archer | Archer Swearingen Family Law  
SC Bar #101662 | University of South Carolina School of Law

### **WHAT THE FULL PACKET INCLUDES**

This is a preview of the South Carolina DIY Divorce Packet for uncontested cases with no minor children. The full packet is a complete, step-by-step system for filing your own uncontested divorce in South Carolina. It includes every official court form you will need, a plain-English guide walking you through each step, editable templates for documents that require drafting, a sample completed filing so you can see exactly what your paperwork should look like, and courtroom aids to prepare for the final hearing. This preview shows one representative section from the main guide so you can evaluate the quality and format before you buy.

### **CONTENTS OF THE FULL PACKET**

- **Start Here Document**  
Eligibility checklist and packet orientation
- **Main Guide**  
Step-by-step filing, service, hearing, and final decree instructions
- **Official Court Forms**  
The SCCA forms your county clerk expects to see
- **Editable Templates**  
Property and Debt Settlement Agreement and supporting documents
- **Sample Completed Filing**  
A full example filing using fictitious facts, showing correct format
- **Report of Divorce or Annulment**  
DHEC 0682 required by the clerk before your Final Order is filed
- **Courtroom Aids**  
Final Hearing Questions, Witness Preparation, Etiquette, Post-Divorce Checklist



## Sample Excerpt from the Main Guide

*Excerpt from South Carolina DIY Divorce Packet (Uncontested, No Children)*

### Step 4: Serve Your Spouse (30 to 60 Minutes)

If your spouse will cooperate, have them sign an Acceptance of Service in front of a notary. This is the fastest and least expensive method of service and works well when the divorce is genuinely uncontested.

If your spouse will not cooperate on service, you may serve by sheriff, process server, or certified mail with Return Receipt Requested. Keep the green card. It is your proof the papers were delivered.

Once service is complete, file the proof of service with the Clerk. Your case cannot move forward until proof of service is on file.

**If your spouse does not respond within 30 days.** South Carolina gives a spouse 30 days from the date of service to file an Answer. If that window closes with no response, you may be able to proceed by default. The packet includes the Affidavit of Default form (SCCA 400.07 SRL-DIV) and walks you through when and how to file it. Most uncontested no-children divorces do not require this form because the responding spouse has already signed an Acceptance of Service and both parties are cooperating.

**What proceeding by default does not do.** A default does not guarantee the judge will grant your divorce. You must still appear at the final hearing with your corroborating witness and present your case. The judge will review your paperwork to confirm everything is in order. If your case may require default, the packet's Decision Aids section walks you through whether default applies and how to proceed.

**Why service matters this much.** Improper service is one of the most common reasons DIY divorces get rejected or delayed at the clerk's office. The packet's Main Guide includes a full walkthrough of each service option, county-specific notes on which methods work best where, and a troubleshooting section for the situations that come up most often.

#### PREVIEW NOTE

This excerpt is one representative section of the packet's main guide. The full guide walks you through every step from filing through final decree, with SC-specific forms, samples, and county-level guidance.