



A GUIDE TO REGISTRATION OF FOREIGN CUSTODY ORDERS

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FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

<https://courts.delaware.gov/family>

Family Court Contact Information

New Castle County

Leonard L Williams
Justice Center
500 N. King Street
Wilmington, DE 19801
302-255-0300

Kent County

Family Courthouse
400 Court Street
Dover, DE 19901
302-672-1000

Sussex County

Family Courthouse
22 The Circle
Georgetown, DE 19947
302-855-7400

All Family Court Forms, FAQs, Filing Instruction Packets, and additional information can be found on the Family Court Website at:
<https://courts.delaware.gov/family>

What does registration of a foreign custody order mean?

If you register your foreign custody order this means that the Delaware Family Court will recognize and enforce a custody order from another state.

What registration does not mean?

Registration does not necessarily mean that the Family Court has jurisdiction over your case. Jurisdiction may remain where the Order was entered. Therefore, Delaware may not be able to change the Order. Delaware can, however, hold a hearing regarding the enforcement of the Order.

When should I register my Order?

You have a current valid custody Order issued in another state that you would like to be registered in Delaware.

How do I register my Order?

You will need to complete an Affidavit and Request to Register a Foreign Custody Order, (Form 182), an Information Sheet (Form 240) and a Custody Separate Statement (Form 346). File these forms along with two copies of the Custody Order, one of which must be certified by the Court that issued it.

How do I file the required paperwork?

Required forms and documents may be filed at or mailed to the Family Court in each county. Family Court also now accepts filings by email. To file by email, you must send all required forms to:
FC_CustodyVisitation@delaware.gov

What happens next?

The Court will register the custody order. The Court will then send a letter to the other party(ies) informing them that the Order has been registered in Delaware. The other party may oppose the registration of the Order and notify the Court within twenty days. The Court will then hold a hearing. If the other party does not oppose the registration of the Order, the Order will remain registered in Delaware.

*More information about Registration of Foreign Custody Orders may be found in Title 13, Delaware Code, Section 1934