

Divorce and Legal Separation - Jurisdiction and Service of Process¹

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Introduction

This publication was developed under grant number SJI-20-E-005 from the State Justice Institute. The Divorce and Legal Separation Jurisdiction and Service of Process chart is a powerful tool in assessing the jurisdictional requirements for divorce proceedings between states. Recognizing the diverse circumstances under which many divorce proceedings take place, states have adapted by creating jurisdictional requirements to ensure that residents may bring divorce actions in their resident county despite the status of other parties to the case. To use the chart most effectively, find the relevant state listed below, which is accompanied by applicable jurisdiction and service requirements.

This chart can also be used as a comparative tool to assess the differences between states. Generally, jurisdiction extends to anyone who has been engaged in a marriage in the state and who meets certain residency requirements. One common theme is that many states have jurisdictional statutes specific to armed service members who may be deployed at the time of filing. It is also important to note that similarities between states may be attributed to their adoption of the Uniform Marriage and Divorce Act.

Jurisdiction and service requirement questions may arise especially where one party is a non-resident and/or is not located in the state, or in cases where one party is located abroad. Most state statutes and civil procedure rules account for service in a different jurisdiction. A few states have statutes specific to service in a foreign jurisdiction.

¹ **Disclaimer:** The points of view expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the State Justice Institute. While the Divorce and Legal Separation Jurisdiction and Service of Process chart is a useful resource, it does not remove the responsibility to engage in original analysis and research.

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
Alabama	<p><i>Minimum Contacts Related to Divorce, Legal Separation, and the Martial Relationship</i></p> <p>Ala. R. Civ. P. 4.2 (2)(H) Sufficient contacts with state exist to confer jurisdiction over non-resident defendant where person is “living in the martial relationship within this state notwithstanding subsequent departure from this state, as to all obligations arising from alimony, custody, child support, or property settlement, if the other party to the martial relationship continues to reside in this state.”</p> <p>Sufficient contacts with state exist to confer jurisdiction over non-resident defendant where person is “living in the martial relationship within this state notwithstanding subsequent departure from this state, as to all obligations arising from alimony, custody, child support, or property settlement, if the other party to the martial relationship continues to reside in this state.”</p>	<p>Ala. Code § 30-2-8 The proceeding must, in all respects, be conducted as other civil actions, except as herein otherwise directed. The cause for which the divorce is sought must be alleged in the complaint, to which the other party must be made a defendant. If service by publication shall be made, when necessary, in the manner provided in the Alabama Rules of Civil Procedure.</p> <p>Ala. Code § 30-2-40 (a) The court shall enter a decree of legal separation if all of the following requirements are satisfied: (1) The court determines that the jurisdictional requirements for the dissolution of a marriage have been met.</p>
Alaska	<p>AS. St. 09.05.015 Sufficient contacts with state exist to confer jurisdiction over non-resident defendant in an action for annulment, divorce or separate maintenance when a personal claim is asserted against the nonresident party if “(A) the parties resided in this state in a marital relationship for not less than six consecutive months within the six years preceding the commencement of the action; (B) the party asserting the personal claim has</p>	<p>AS 25.24.220 (c) If the petition is filed by one spouse under AS 25.24.200 (b), that spouse shall submit proof of diligent inquiry as to the whereabouts of the absent spouse and provide notice by publication, posting, or other means as ordered by the court under the Alaska Rules of Civil Procedure.</p>

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	continued to reside in this state; and (C) the nonresident party receives notice as required by law.”	
Arizona	<p>AZ St. 25-312</p> <p>The court shall enter a decree of dissolution of marriage if it finds each of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That one of the parties, at the time the action was commenced, was domiciled in this state, or was stationed in this state while a member of the armed services, and that in either case the domicile or military presence has been maintained for ninety days prior to filing the petition for dissolution of marriage. 	<p>AZ R.Civ.P. 5(c)</p> <p>(c) Service After Appearance; Service After Judgment; How Made.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Serving an Attorney. If a party is represented by an attorney, service under this rule must be made on the attorney unless the court orders or a specific rule requires service on the party. (2) Service Generally. A document is served under this rule by any of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (A) handing it to the person; (B) leaving it: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) at the person's office with a clerk or other person in charge or, if no one is in charge, in a conspicuous place in the office; or (ii) if the person has no office or the office is closed, at the person's dwelling or usual place of abode with someone of suitable age and discretion who resides there; (C) mailing it by U.S. mail to the person's last-known address--in which event service is complete upon mailing; (D) delivering it by any other means, including electronic means other than that described in Rule 5(c)(2)(E), if the recipient consents in writing to that method of service or if the court orders service in that manner--in which event service is complete upon transmission; or

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		<p>(E) transmitting it through an electronic filing service provider approved by the Administrative Office of the Courts, if the recipient is an attorney of record in the action--in which event service is complete upon transmission.</p>
<p>Arkansas</p>	<p>AK. St. 9-12-303 (a) The proceedings shall be in the county where the complainant resides unless the complainant is a nonresident of the State of Arkansas and the defendant is a resident of the state, in which case the proceedings shall be in the county where the defendant resides and, in any event, the process may be directed to any county in the state. (b) In actions initiated by the Office of Child Support Enforcement of the Revenue Division of the Department of Finance and Administration or the Department of Human Services, proceedings may also be commenced in the county where the defendant resides. (c) When a spouse initiates an action against the other spouse for an absolute divorce, divorce from bed and board, or separate maintenance, then the venue for the initial action shall also be the venue for any of the three (3) named actions filed by the other spouse, regardless of the residency of the other spouse.</p>	<p>AK R. Civ. P. 5(b) (b)Service: How Made. (1) Whenever under this rule or any statute service is required or permitted to be made upon a party represented by an attorney, the service shall be upon the attorney, except that service shall be upon the party if the court so orders or the action is one in which a final judgment has been entered and the court has continuing jurisdiction. (2) Except as provided in paragraph (3) of this subdivision, service upon the attorney or upon the party shall be made by delivering a copy to him or by sending it to him by regular mail or commercial delivery company at his last known address or, if no address is known, by leaving it with the clerk of the court. Delivery of a copy for purposes of this paragraph means handing it to the attorney or to the party; by leaving it at his office with his clerk or other person in charge thereof; or, if the office is closed or the person has no office, leaving it at his dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person residing therein who is at least 14 years of age. Service by mail is presumptively complete upon mailing, and service by commercial delivery company is presumptively complete upon depositing the papers with</p>

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		<p>the company. When service is permitted upon an attorney, such service may be effected by electronic transmission, including e-mail, provided that the attorney being served has facilities within his or her office to receive and reproduce verbatim electronic transmissions. Service is complete upon transmission but is not effective if it does not reach the person to be served. Service by a commercial delivery company shall not be valid unless the company:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) maintains permanent records of actual delivery, and (B) has been approved by the circuit court in which the action is filed or in the county where service is to be made. <p>(3) If a final judgment or decree has been entered and the court has continuing jurisdiction, service upon a party by mail or commercial delivery company shall comply with the requirements of Rule 4(d)(8)(A) and (C), respectively.</p>
California	<p>CA FAM § 7620</p> <p>When service of summons on a spouse is made pursuant to Section 415.50 of the Code of Civil Procedure , the court, without the aid of attachment or the appointment of a receiver, shall have and may exercise the same jurisdiction over:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The community real property of the spouse so served situated in this state as it has or may exercise over the community real property of a spouse who is personally served with process within this state. (b) The quasi-community real property of the spouse so served situated in this state as it has or may exercise over the quasi- 	<p>CA CIV PRO § 415.50</p> <p>(a) A summons may be served by publication if upon affidavit it appears to the satisfaction of the court in which the action is pending that the party to be served cannot with reasonable diligence be served in another manner specified in this article and that either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A cause of action exists against the party upon whom service is to be made or he or she is a necessary or proper party to the action. (2) The party to be served has or claims an interest in real or personal property in this state that is subject to

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	<p>community real property of a spouse who is personally served with process within this state.</p>	<p>the jurisdiction of the court or the relief demanded in the action consists wholly or in part in excluding the party from any interest in the property.</p> <p>(b) The court shall order the summons to be published in a named newspaper, published in this state, that is most likely to give actual notice to the party to be served. If the party to be served resides or is located out of this state, the court may also order the summons to be published in a named newspaper outside this state that is most likely to give actual notice to that party. The order shall direct that a copy of the summons, the complaint, and the order for publication be forthwith mailed to the party if his or her address is ascertained before expiration of the time prescribed for publication of the summons. Except as otherwise provided by statute, the publication shall be made as provided by Section 6064 of the Government Code unless the court, in its discretion, orders publication for a longer period.</p> <p>(c) Service of a summons in this manner is deemed complete as provided in Section 6064 of the Government Code.</p> <p>(d) Notwithstanding an order for publication of the summons, a summons may be served in another manner authorized by this chapter, in which event the service shall supersede any published summons.</p> <p>(e) As a condition of establishing that the party to be served cannot with reasonable diligence be served in another manner specified in this article, the court may not require that a search be conducted of public databases where access by a registered</p>

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		process server to residential addresses is prohibited by law or by published policy of the agency providing the database, including, but not limited to, voter registration rolls and records of the Department of Motor Vehicles.
Colorado	<p>CO St. § 14-10-106.5</p> <p>(1) Any person who enters into a civil union in Colorado pursuant to article 15 of this title consents to the jurisdiction of the courts of Colorado for the purpose of any action relating to a civil union even if one or both parties cease to reside in this state. In a matter seeking a dissolution, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity of a civil union, the court shall follow the procedures that are set forth in this article for dissolution, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity. The provisions of this article and any case law construing this article apply to the dissolution, legal separation, or declaration of invalidity of a civil union.</p> <p>(2) The court shall follow the laws of Colorado in a matter filed in Colorado that is seeking a dissolution, legal separation, or invalidity of a civil union that was entered into in another jurisdiction.</p>	<p>CO St. § 14-10-107</p> <p>(1) All proceedings under this article shall be commenced in the manner provided by the Colorado rules of civil procedure.</p> <p>(2) The petition in a proceeding for dissolution of marriage or legal separation shall allege that the marriage is irretrievably broken and shall set forth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The residence of each party and the length of residence in this state; (b) The date and place of the marriage; (c) The date on which the parties separated; (d) The names, ages, and addresses of any living children of the marriage and whether the wife is pregnant; (e) Any arrangements as to the allocation of parental responsibilities with respect to the children of the marriage and support of the children and the maintenance of a spouse; (f) The relief sought; and (g) A written acknowledgment by the petitioner and the co-petitioner, if any, that he or she has received a copy of, has read, and understands the terms of the automatic temporary injunction required by paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of this section. <p>(2.5) Upon the filing of a petition for dissolution of marriage or legal separation pursuant to this article, each party shall</p>

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		<p>provide to the court, in the manner prescribed by the court, his or her social security number and the social security number of each child named in the petition pursuant to paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of this section.</p> <p>(3) Either or both parties to the marriage may initiate the proceeding. In addition, a legal guardian, with court approval pursuant to section 15-14-315.5, C.R.S., or a conservator, with court approval pursuant to section 15-14-425.5, C.R.S., may initiate the proceeding. If a legal guardian or conservator initiates the proceeding, the legal guardian or conservator shall receive notice in the same manner as the parties to the proceeding.</p> <p>(4) (a) Upon the commencement of a proceeding by one of the parties, or by a legal guardian or conservator of one of the parties, the other party shall be personally served in the manner provided by the Colorado rules of civil procedure, and he or she may file a response in accordance with such rules; except that, upon motion verified by the oath of the party commencing the proceeding or of someone in his or her behalf for an order of publication stating the facts authorizing such service, and showing the efforts, if any, that have been made to obtain personal service within this state, and giving the address or last-known address of each person to be served or stating that his or her address and last-known address are unknown, the court shall hear the motion ex parte and, if satisfied that due diligence has been used to obtain personal service within this state or that efforts to obtain the same would have been to</p>

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		<p>no avail, shall order one publication of a consolidated notice in a newspaper published or having general circulation in the county in which the proceeding is filed, notwithstanding the provisions of article 70 of title 24, C.R.S. A consolidated notice shall be published at least once during a calendar month and shall list the proceedings filed subsequent to those named in the previously published consolidated notice, stating as to each proceeding the names of the parties, the action number, the nature of the action, that a copy of the petition and summons may be obtained from the clerk of the court during regular business hours, and that default judgment may be entered against that party upon whom service is made by such notice if he or she fails to appear or file a response within thirty-five days after the date of publication. Costs of publication of a consolidated notice may be assessed pro rata to each of the proceedings named in the notice; except that, if a party is indigent or otherwise unable to pay such publication costs, the costs shall be paid by the court from funds appropriated for the purpose. Service shall be complete upon such publication, and a response or appearance by the party served by publication under this subsection (4) shall be made within thirty-five days thereafter, or default judgment may be entered. No later than the day of publication, the clerk of the court shall also post for thirty-five consecutive days a copy of the process on a bulletin board in his or her office and may post it on the website of the district court in which the case was filed and shall mail a copy of the process to the other party at his or her</p>

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		<p>last-known address, and shall place in the file of the proceeding his or her certificate of posting and mailing. Proof of publication of the consolidated notice shall be by placing in the file a copy of the affidavit of publication, certified by the clerk of the court to be a true and correct copy of the original affidavit on file in the clerk's office.</p> <p>(b) (l) Upon the filing of a petition for dissolution of marriage or legal separation by the petitioner or copetitioner or by a legal guardian or conservator on behalf of one of the parties and upon personal service of the petition and summons on the respondent or upon waiver and acceptance of service by the respondent, a temporary injunction shall be in effect against both parties until the final decree is entered or the petition is dismissed or until further order of the court:</p> <p>(A) Restraining both parties from transferring, encumbering, concealing, or in any way disposing of, without the consent of the other party or an order of the court, any marital property, except in the usual course of business or for the necessities of life and requiring each party to notify the other party of any proposed extraordinary expenditures and to account to the court for all extraordinary expenditures made after the injunction is in effect;</p> <p>(B) Enjoining both parties from molesting or disturbing the peace of the other party;</p> <p>(C) Restraining both parties from removing the minor child or children of the parties, if any, from the</p>

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		<p>state without the consent of the other party or an order of the court; and</p> <p>(D) Restraining both parties, without at least fourteen days' advance notification and the written consent of the other party or an order of the court, from canceling, modifying, terminating, or allowing to lapse for nonpayment of premiums, any policy of health insurance, homeowner's or renter's insurance, or automobile insurance that provides coverage to either of the parties or the minor children or any policy of life insurance that names either of the parties or the minor children as a beneficiary.</p> <p>(II) The provisions of the injunction shall be printed upon the summons and the petition and the injunction shall become an order of the court upon fulfillment of the requirements of subparagraph (I) of this paragraph (b). However, nothing in this paragraph (b) shall preclude either party from applying to the court for further temporary orders, an expanded temporary injunction, or modification or revocation under section 14-10-108.</p> <p>(III) The summons shall contain the following advisements:</p> <p>(A) That a request for genetic tests shall not prejudice the requesting party in matters concerning allocation of parental responsibilities pursuant to section 14-10-124 (1.5); and</p>

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		<p>(B) That, if genetic tests are not obtained prior to a legal establishment of paternity and submitted into evidence prior to the entry of the legal final decree of dissolution, the genetic tests may not be allowed into evidence at a later date.</p> <p>(4.1) With regard to the automatic, temporary injunction that becomes effective in accordance with paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of this section when a petition for dissolution of marriage or legal separation is filed and served, whenever there is exhibited by the respondent to any duly authorized peace officer as described in section 16-2.5-101, C.R.S., a copy of the petition and summons duly filed and issued pursuant to this section, or, in the case of the petitioner, a copy of the petition and summons duly filed and issued pursuant to this section, together with a certified copy of the affidavit of service of process or a certified copy of the waiver and acceptance of service, and the peace officer has cause to believe that a violation of that part of the automatic, temporary injunction which enjoins both parties from molesting the other party has occurred, such peace officer shall use every reasonable means to enforce that part of the injunction against the petitioner or respondent. A peace officer shall not be held civilly or criminally liable for his or her action pursuant to this subsection (4.1) if the action is in good faith and without malice.</p>
Connecticut	<p>CT Gen St. § 46b-44</p> <p>(a) A complaint for dissolution of a marriage or for legal separation may be filed at any time after either party has</p>	<p>CT Gen St. § 46b-45</p> <p>(a) A proceeding for annulment, dissolution of marriage or legal separation shall be commenced by the service and filing</p>

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	<p>established residence in this state.</p> <p>(b) Temporary relief pursuant to the complaint may be granted in accordance with sections 46b-56 and 46b-83 at any time after either party has established residence in this state.</p> <p>(c) A decree dissolving a marriage or granting a legal separation may be entered if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) One of the parties to the marriage has been a resident of this state for at least the twelve months next preceding the date of the filing of the complaint or next preceding the date of the decree; or (2) one of the parties was domiciled in this state at the time of the marriage and returned to this state with the intention of permanently remaining before the filing of the complaint; or (3) the cause for the dissolution of the marriage arose after either party moved into this state. <p>(d) For the purposes of this section, any person who has served or is serving with the armed forces, as defined by section 27-103, or the merchant marine, and who was a resident of this state at the time of his or her entry shall be deemed to have continuously resided in this state during the time he or she has served or is serving with the armed forces or merchant marine.</p>	<p>of a complaint as in all other civil actions in the Superior Court for the judicial district in which one of the parties resides. The complaint may also be made by the Attorney General in a proceeding for annulment of a void marriage. The complaint shall be served on the other party.</p> <p>(b) If any party is an inmate of a mental institution in this state, a copy of the complaint shall be served on the Commissioner of Administrative Services personally or by registered or certified mail. If any party is confined in an institution in any other state, a copy shall be so served on the superintendent of the institution in which the party is confined.</p>
Delaware	<p>13 Del. C. Ch. 15 § 1504 Jurisdiction; residence; procedure.</p> <p>(a) The Family Court of the State has jurisdiction over all actions for divorce and annulment of marriage where either petitioner or respondent, at the time the action was commenced, actually</p>	<p>13 Del. C. Ch. 15 § 1508 Obtaining jurisdiction over respondent.</p> <p>(a) After the filing of the petition, jurisdiction may be acquired over respondent in any of the following ways:</p>

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	<p>resided in this State, or was stationed in this State as a member of the armed services of the United States, continuously for 6 or more months immediately preceding the commencement of the action. Notwithstanding the immediately preceding sentence, in addition to any other basis for jurisdiction it may otherwise have, the Family Court of this State has jurisdiction over all proceedings for divorce and annulment of same-gender marriages that are solemnized in this State or created by conversion of civil unions pursuant to the laws of this State, notwithstanding that the domicile or residency of the petitioner and the respondent are not in this State, if the jurisdiction of domicile or residency of the petitioner and/or the respondent does not by law affirmatively permit such a proceeding to be brought in the courts of that jurisdiction. If neither of the parties to a same-gender marriage solemnized in this State or created by conversion of a civil union pursuant to the laws of this State reside in this State, any petition for divorce or annulment of such marriage shall be filed in the county in which one or both of such parties last resided in this State.</p> <p>(b) The procedure in divorce and annulment shall conform to the rules of the Court where the same do not contravene this title.</p>	<p>(1) By issuance of summons by the Clerk of the Family Court, and service thereof by the sheriff upon respondent, by delivering a copy of the summons, petition and any affidavit to respondent personally or by delivering copies thereof to an agent authorized by appointment or by law to receive service of process;</p> <p>(2) By appearance of respondent, either personally or by executing and filing an appearance document in a form approved by the Court, with or without issuance of summons;</p> <p>(3) By appearance of counsel for respondent, with or without issuance of summons;</p> <p>(4) Under a court rule not inconsistent with this section.</p> <p>(b) If the petition avers that it is unlikely that jurisdiction can be acquired over respondent except by mailing and publication, or by publication only, whether respondent is a resident or a nonresident of this State, jurisdiction may be acquired over respondent by mailing and publication, or by publication only, under subsection (d) of this section.</p> <p>(c) If an effort has been made unsuccessfully to obtain jurisdiction over respondent as provided in subsection (a) of this section, then jurisdiction may be acquired over respondent by mailing and publication, or by publication only, under subsection (d) of this section.</p> <p>(d) When service is to be made upon respondent by mailing and publication, the Clerk of the Family Court shall:</p> <p>(1) Send a copy of the summons, petition and any affidavit to respondent by registered or certified mail, return</p>

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		<p>receipt requested, to the address that petitioner had averred it is most likely that mail will be received by respondent; and</p> <p>(2) Cause a notice in the form prescribed by subsection (e) of this section to be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the action is pending. If petitioner has averred that he or she knows of no address where it is most likely that mail will be received by respondent there shall be no mailing.</p> <p>No further notice shall be required unless the Court, deeming the circumstances exceptional, requires further notice.</p> <p>(e) The form of notice shall be as follows:</p> <p>(f) When the petition avers that respondent is a resident of this State, the summons shall be delivered to an officer for service in the county where it appears most likely that service can be effected on respondent.</p> <p>(g) The expense of mailing and publication shall be taxed as part of the costs of the case.</p> <p>(h) Original process, whether an original, alias or pluries writ, is returnable 20 days after the issuance of the writ, except that the Court by rule, or by order after application for cause shown, may provide that the writ be returnable sooner or later.</p>
Florida	<p>Fla. Stat. § 61.021</p> <p>To obtain a dissolution of marriage, one of the parties to the marriage must reside 6 months in the state before the filing of the petition.</p>	<p>Fla. Stat. § 61.043(1)</p> <p>A copy of the petition together with a copy of a summons shall be served upon the other party to the marriage in the same manner as service of papers in civil actions generally.</p> <p>Fla. Stat. § 48.031(1)-(2), (6)-(7)</p>

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		<p>(1)</p> <p>(a) Service of original process is made by delivering a copy of it to the person to be served with a copy of the complaint, petition, or other initial pleading or paper or by leaving the copies at his or her usual place of abode with any person residing therein who is 15 years of age or older and informing the person of their contents. Minors who are or have been married shall be served as provided in this section.</p> <p>(b) An employer, when contacted by an individual authorized to serve process, shall allow the authorized individual to serve an employee in a private area designated by the employer. An employer who fails to comply with this paragraph commits a noncriminal violation, punishable by a fine of up to \$1,000.</p> <p>(2)</p> <p>(a) Substituted service on the spouse of the person to be served may be made at any place in a county by an individual authorized under s. 48.021 or s. 48.27 to serve process in that county , if the cause of action is not an adversarial proceeding between the spouse and the person to be served, if the spouse requests such service or the spouse is also a party to the action , and if the spouse and person to be served reside together in the same dwelling , regardless of whether such dwelling is located in the county where substituted service is made .</p>

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		<p>(b) Substituted service may be made on an individual doing business as a sole proprietorship at his or her place of business, during regular business hours, by serving the person in charge of the business at the time of service if two attempts to serve the owner are made at the place of business.</p> <p>(6)</p> <p>(a) If the only address for a person to be served which is discoverable through public records is a private mailbox, a virtual office, or an executive office or mini suite, substituted service may be made by leaving a copy of the process with the person in charge of the private mailbox, virtual office, or executive office or mini suite, but only if the process server determines that the person to be served maintains a mailbox, a virtual office, or an executive office or mini suite at that location.</p> <p>(b) For purposes of this subsection, the term "virtual office" means an office that provides communications services, such as telephone or facsimile services, and address services without providing dedicated office space, and where all communications are routed through a common receptionist. The term "executive office or mini suite" means an office that provides communications services, such as telephone and facsimile services, a dedicated office space, and other supportive services, and where all communications are routed through a common receptionist.</p>

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		<p>(7) A gated residential community, including a condominium association or a cooperative, shall grant unannounced entry into the community, including its common areas and common elements, to a person who is attempting to serve process on a defendant or witness who resides within or is known to be within the community.</p>
<p>Georgia</p>	<p>GA Code § 9-10-91 A court of this state may exercise personal jurisdiction over any nonresident or his or her executor or administrator, as to a cause of action arising from any of the acts, omissions, ownership, use, or possession enumerated in this Code section, in the same manner as if he or she were a resident of this state, if in person or through an agent, he or she: (1) Transacts any business within this state; (2) Commits a tortious act or omission within this state, except as to a cause of action for defamation of character arising from the act; (3) Commits a tortious injury in this state caused by an act or omission outside this state if the tort-feasor regularly does or solicits business, or engages in any other persistent course of conduct, or derives substantial revenue from goods used or consumed or services rendered in this state; (4) Owns, uses, or possesses any real property situated within this state; (5) With respect to proceedings for divorce, separate maintenance, annulment, or other domestic relations action or with respect to an independent action for support of</p>	<p>GA Code § 9-11-4 (c) Summons -- By whom served. Process shall be served by: (1) The sheriff of the county where the action is brought or where the defendant is found or by such sheriff's deputy; (2) The marshal or sheriff of the court or by such official's deputy; (3) Any citizen of the United States specially appointed by the court for that purpose; (4) A person who is not a party, not younger than 18 years of age, and has been appointed by the court to serve process or as a permanent process server; or (5) A certified process server as provided in Code Section 9-11-4.1. Where the service of process is made outside of the United States, after an order of publication, it may be served either by any citizen of the United States or by any resident of the country, territory, colony, or province who is specially appointed by the court for that purpose. When service is to be made within this state, the person making such service shall make the service within five days from the time of receiving the</p>

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	<p>dependents, maintains a matrimonial domicile in this state at the time of the commencement of this action or if the defendant resided in this state preceding the commencement of the action, whether cohabiting during that time or not. This paragraph shall not change the residency requirement for filing an action for divorce; or</p> <p>(6) Has been subject to the exercise of jurisdiction of a court of this state which has resulted in an order of alimony, child custody, child support, equitable apportionment of debt, or equitable division of property if the action involves modification of such order and the moving party resides in this state or if the action involves enforcement of such order notwithstanding the domicile of the moving party.</p>	<p>summons and complaint; but failure to make service within the five-day period will not invalidate a later service.</p>
<p>Illinois</p>	<p>750 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 5/401</p> <p>Illinois courts may 'enter a judgment of dissolution of marriage if at the time the action was commenced one of the spouses was a resident of this State or was stationed in this State while a member of the armed services, and the residence or military presence had been maintained for 90 days next preceding the commencement of the action or the making of the finding.</p> <p>"Marriage dissolution proceedings are within the general jurisdiction of the circuit courts. The authority of a circuit court to act in dissolution of marriage or divorce cases is conferred only by statute. Dissolution of marriage is entirely statutory in origin and nature, and courts must exercise their powers in dissolution cases within the limits of the Marriage and</p>	<p>750 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 5/410</p> <p>The process, practice and proceedings under this Act shall be the same as in other civil cases, except as otherwise provided by this Act, or by any law or rule of court, and except that when the parties resided in a municipality, in a county with a population under 2,000,000, at the time the cause of action arose, and if service by publication is necessary, publication shall be in a newspaper published in such municipality if there is one.</p> <p>"Personal service or service by publication on a nonresident completes the requirements for in rem jurisdiction, that is, jurisdiction of marital status, even though the grounds take place in a different state." Tracy Bateman et al., <i>Divorce</i>;</p>

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	<p>Dissolution of Marriage Act. However, a court in a dissolution of marriage proceeding does not exceed its jurisdiction merely because it overlooks or misapplies the provisions of the Act. The courts have no inherent power in dissolution or divorce cases, and thus may not rely upon the general equity power. Subject-matter jurisdiction in divorce cases cannot be conferred by stipulation or consent of the parties." Tracy Bateman et al., <i>Divorce; Dissolution of Marriage</i>, in 16 Ill. Law and Prac. § 14 (2019).</p> <p><i>In rem jurisdiction over the marriage itself:</i></p> <p>"In order to dissolve a marriage the circuit court must have in rem jurisdiction, meaning jurisdiction over the marital status. Although an Illinois court does not have in personam jurisdiction over a spouse who resides in a foreign state, and thus, cannot resolve issues regarding property division, maintenance, support, or child custody, it may have in rem jurisdiction to dissolve the marriage." Tracy Bateman et al., <i>Divorce; Dissolution of Marriage</i>, in 16 Ill. Law and Prac. § 15 (2019).</p> <p>750 Ill. Comp. Stat. Ann. 5/402</p> <p>(a) Any person living separate and apart from his or her spouse may have a remedy for reasonable support and maintenance while they so live apart.</p> <p>(b) Such action shall be brought in the circuit court of the</p>	<p><i>Dissolution of Marriage</i>, in 16 Ill. Law and Prac. § 15 (2019).</p> <p>Constructive Service: "Constructive or substituted service of process may be appropriate in a dissolution of marriage or divorce proceeding, and the statutory requirements must be met. Statutory requirements are met where a motion for substituted service alleges that service of a spouse by other statutory methods are impractical because he or she is willfully avoiding service, and demonstrating that a diligent inquiry was made to locate and serve the spouse without success." Tracy Bateman et al., <i>Divorce; Dissolution of Marriage</i>, in 16 Ill. Law and Prac. § 24 (2019).</p>

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	<p>county in which the petitioner or respondent resides or in which the parties last resided together as husband and wife.</p> <p>"Under Illinois law spouses can contract to live separate and apart, and agreements between a husband and a wife for a separation are not per se invalid, except where it is a contract to procure a divorce. Where the separation of a husband and wife is imminent or has already occurred, an agreement making fair and equitable provision for the separate support of one spouse and for a settlement of property rights is not against public policy." Romualdo P. Eclavea & Eric C. Surette, <i>Husband and Wife</i>, in 21 Ill. Law and Prac. § 91 (2019).</p>	
Indiana	<p>IC 31-15-2-6; IC 31-15-3-6.</p> <p>(a) At the time of the filing of a petition under section 4 of this chapter, at least one (1) of the parties must have been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) a resident of Indiana; or (2) stationed at a United States military installation within Indiana; <p>for six (6) months immediately preceding the filing of the petition.</p> <p>(b) Except as provided in subsection (c), at the time of the filing of a petition under section 4 of this chapter, at least one (1) of the parties must have been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) a resident of the county; or (2) stationed at a United States military installation within the county; 	<p>IC 31-15-2-1.</p> <p>Proceedings under this article must comply with the Indiana Rules of Civil Procedure.</p> <p>Where the petitioner has complied with the notice provisions, the assumption of jurisdiction by a forum meeting the jurisdictional provisions of the Uniform Act satisfies the "traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice" <i>In re Marriage of Hudson</i>, 434 N.E.2d 107, 119 (Ind. Ct. App. 1982)</p> <p>IC 31-15-2-8; IC 31-15-3-7</p> <p>Whenever a petition is filed, a copy of the petition, including a copy of a summons, shall be served upon the other party to the marriage in the same manner as service of summons in civil actions generally.</p>

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	<p>where the petition is filed for three (3) months immediately preceding the filing of the petition.</p> <p>(c) If a court has authorized a guardian to file a petition under section 4 of this chapter on behalf of an incapacitated person under IC 29-3-9-12.2, the guardian may file the petition for dissolution in the guardian's county of residence if the guardian has resided in that county for at least three (3) months immediately preceding the filing of the petition.</p>	<p>Indiana Rules of Trial Procedure, Rule 4.1.</p> <p>(A) In General. Service may be made upon an individual, or an individual acting in a representative capacity, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) sending a copy of the summons and complaint by registered or certified mail or other public means by which a written acknowledgment of receipt may be requested and obtained to his residence, place of business or employment with return receipt requested and returned showing receipt of the letter; or (2) delivering a copy of the summons and complaint to him personally; or (3) leaving a copy of the summons and complaint at his dwelling house or usual place of abode; or (4) serving his agent as provided by rule, statute or valid agreement. <p>(B) Copy Service to Be Followed With Mail. Whenever service is made under Clause (3) or (4) of subdivision (A), the person making the service also shall send by first class mail, a copy of the summons and the complaint to the last known address of the person being served, and this fact shall be shown upon the return.</p>
Iowa	<p><i>Dissolution of Marriage and Domestic Relations</i></p> <p>I.C.A. 598.2. Jurisdiction and venue</p> <p>The district court has original jurisdiction of the subject matter of this chapter. Venue shall be in the county where either party resides.</p>	<p><i>Service of Divorce Proceedings:</i></p> <p>2 Ia. Prac., Methods of Practice § 31:10</p> <p>The Rules permit several ways in which service of process may be done. If the defendant is physically located in Iowa and his whereabouts are known or can be ascertained, service must be</p>

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	<p>I.C.A. §§ 598.6; 598.9</p> <p>To bring an action for dissolution of marriage, the petitioner must have been a resident of the State of Iowa for one year after deducting all absences from the state. If the period of residency is not fully proved, the action will be dismissed by the court.</p>	<p>made upon him by delivering a copy of the Original Notice and Petition personally wherever he may be found, or by leaving a copy thereof at his dwelling place or usual abode with any adult residing therein. The latter method of service should not be adopted if the person with whom it is to be left at the dwelling place is adversely interested in the subject matter of the suit. Thus if a wife were suing her husband for divorce, service could not be made by leaving a copy with her for the husband.</p> <p>Personal service may be made on Respondent outside the state of Iowa, in the same manner as provided above. If personal service cannot be made upon the defendant within the state, constructive notice is proper which consists of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Filing an affidavit in the case before any publication of the notice stating and showing that “personal service of the original notice and petition cannot be had or made on the defendant within the state of Iowa.” 2. Mailing a copy of the original notice and petition by ordinary mail addressed to the defendant at his last known address. (Affidavit must be made showing such mailing and if no address is known or can be ascertained by diligent search, like affidavit must be made to excuse non-mailing.) 3. Publishing the original notice once each week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the petition is filed, such newspaper to be

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		<p>selected and designated by plaintiff or his or her attorney. It would be well to designate this newspaper in the affidavit showing that service cannot be made personally upon defendant within the state of Iowa.</p> <p>4. Filing proof of publication—such proof to be by affidavit of the publisher or one of its authorized employees.</p> <p>Personal service outside the state obviates the necessity of publication; likewise a sworn acceptance of service or a voluntary general appearance.</p> <p>There is an important distinction between an original notice served personally and one served by publication. The original notice served personally requires the appearance of the defendant within 20 days after service of the notice and so states. The original notice served by publication must provide a definite and specific date upon which the defendant must appear which date must be set not earlier than 20 days after the date of the last publication of the notice.</p> <p>Rule 1.305. Personal service Original notices are “served” by delivering a copy to the proper person. Personal service may be made as follows: (1) Upon any individual who has attained majority and who has not been adjudged incompetent, either by taking the individual's signed, dated acknowledgment of service endorsed on the notice, or by serving the individual personally; or by</p>

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		<p>serving, at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode, any person residing therein who is at least 18 years old, but if such place is a rooming house, hotel, club or apartment building, a copy may be delivered to such person who resides with the individual or is either a member of the individual's family or the manager or proprietor of such place; or upon the individual's spouse at a place other than the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode if probable cause exists to believe that the spouse lives at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode.</p> <p>(2) Upon a minor by serving the minor's conservator or guardian, unless the notice is served on behalf of such conservator or guardian, or the minor's parent, or some person aged 18 years or more who has the minor's care and custody, or with whom the minor resides, or in whose service the minor is employed. Where the notice is served on behalf of one who is the conservator or guardian and the conservator or guardian is the only person who would be available upon whom service could be made, the court shall appoint, without prior notice to the ward, a guardian ad litem who shall be served and defend for the minor.</p> <p>(3) Upon any person adjudged incompetent but not confined in a state hospital for the mentally ill, by serving the conservator or guardian, unless the notice is served on behalf of such conservator or guardian, or that person's spouse, or some person aged 18 years or more who has that person's care and custody, or with whom that person resides. When the</p>

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		<p>notice is served on behalf of one who is the conservator or guardian and the conservator or guardian is the only person who would be available upon whom service could be made, the court shall appoint without prior notice to the ward a guardian ad litem who shall be served and defend for the incompetent person.</p> <p>(4) Any person confined in a county care facility, or in any state hospital for the mentally ill, or any patient in the State University of Iowa hospital or its psychopathic ward, or any patient or inmate of any institution in the control of a director of a division of the department of human services or department of corrections or of the United States, may be served by the official in charge of such institution or that official's assistant. Proof of such service may be made by the certificate of such official, if the institution is in Iowa, or that official's affidavit if it is out of Iowa.</p> <p>(5) If any defendant, respondent, or other party is a patient in any state or federal hospital for the mentally ill, in or out of Iowa, or has been adjudged incompetent and is confined to a county care facility, the official in charge of such institution or the official's assistant shall accept service on the party's behalf, if in the official's or assistant's opinion direct service on the party would cause injury, which shall be stated in the acceptance.</p> <p>(6) Upon a partnership, or an association suable under a common name, or a corporation, by serving any present or acting or last known officer thereof, or any general or</p>

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		<p>managing agent, or any agent or person now authorized by appointment or by law to receive service of original notice, or on the general partner of a partnership.</p> <p>(7) If the action, whether against an individual, corporation, partnership or other association suable under a common name, arises out of or is connected with the business of any office or agency maintained by the defendant in a county other than where the principal resides, by serving any agent or clerk employed in such office or agency.</p> <p>(8) Upon any city by serving its mayor or clerk.</p> <p>(9) Upon any county by serving its auditor or the chair of its board of supervisors.</p> <p>(10) Upon any school district, school township or school corporation by serving its president or secretary.</p> <p>(11) Upon the state, where made a party pursuant to statutory consent or authorization for suit in the manner provided by any applicable statute.</p> <p>(12) Upon any individual, corporation, partnership or association suable under a common name, either as provided in these rules, as provided by any consent to service or in accordance with any applicable statute.</p> <p>(13) Upon a governmental board, commission or agency, by serving its presiding officer, clerk or secretary.</p> <p>(14) If service cannot be made by any of the methods provided by this rule, any defendant may be served as provided by court order, consistent with due process of law.</p>
Kansas	K. S. A. 23-2703	K.S.A. 23-2704(e)

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	<p>The petitioner or respondent in an action for divorce must have been an actual resident of the state for 60 days immediately preceding the filing of the petition.</p> <p><i>Military residence:</i> Any person who has been a resident of or stationed at a United States post or military reservation within the state for 60 days immediately preceding the filing of the petition may file an action for divorce in any county adjacent to the post or reservation.</p>	<p>(e) <i>Service of process.</i> Service of process shall be made in the manner provided in article 3 of chapter 60 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated, and amendments thereto.</p> <p>K.S.A. 60-303(a)-(e)</p> <p>(a) In general. Methods of service of process within this state, except service by publication as provided in K.S.A. 60-307 , and amendments thereto, are described in this section. Methods of out-of-state service of process are described in K.S.A. 60-308 , and amendments thereto.</p> <p>(b) Who serves process. The sheriff of the county in which the action is filed must serve any process by any method authorized by this section, or as otherwise provided by law, unless a party, either personally or through an attorney, notifies the clerk that the party elects to undertake responsibility for service.</p> <p>(c) Service by return receipt delivery.</p> <p>(1) Service of process may be made by return receipt delivery, which is effected by certified mail, priority mail, commercial courier service, overnight delivery service or other reliable personal delivery service to the party addressed, in each instance evidenced by a written or electronic receipt showing to whom delivered, the date of delivery, the address where delivered and the person or entity effecting delivery.</p> <p>(2) The sheriff, party or party's attorney must give to the person or entity effecting delivery a copy of the process and petition or other document in a sealed envelope, with</p>

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		<p>postage or other delivery fees prepaid, addressed to the person to be served in accordance with K.S.A. 60-304 , and amendments thereto.</p> <p>(3) Service of process is obtained under K.S.A. 60-203 , and amendments thereto, upon the delivery of the sealed envelope.</p> <p>(4) After service and return of the return receipt, the sheriff, party or party's attorney must execute and file a return of service. The return of service must state the nature of the process, to whom delivered, the date of delivery, the address where delivered and the person or entity effecting delivery. It must include a copy of the return receipt evidencing delivery.</p> <p>(5) If the sealed envelope is returned with an endorsement showing refusal to accept delivery, the sheriff, party or the party's attorney may send a copy of the process and petition or other document by first-class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the party to be served, or may elect other methods of service. If mailed, service is considered to be obtained three days after the mailing. Mailing must be evidenced by a certificate filed with the clerk. If the unopened envelope sent by first-class mail is returned as undelivered for any reason, service is not obtained and the sheriff, party or party's attorney must file an amended certificate with the clerk indicating nondelivery. Mere failure to claim the sealed envelope sent by return receipt delivery is not refusal of service within the meaning of this subsection.</p> <p>(d) Personal and residence service.</p>

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		<p>(1) A party may file with the clerk a written request for personal service or, in the case of service on an individual, for residence service.</p> <p>(A) Personal service is effected by delivering or offering to deliver a copy of the process and petition or other document to the person to be served.</p> <p>(B) Residence service on an individual is effected by leaving a copy of the process and petition or other document at the individual's dwelling or usual place of abode with someone of suitable age and discretion who resides there.</p> <p>(C) If personal or residence service cannot be made on an individual, other than a minor or a disabled person, service is effected by leaving a copy of the process and petition or other document at the individual's dwelling or usual place of abode and mailing to the individual by first-class mail, postage prepaid, a notice that the copy has been left at the individual's dwelling or usual place of abode.</p> <p>(2) When process is to be served under this subsection, the clerk must deliver sufficient copies of the process and petition or other document to the sheriff or the county where the process is to be served or, if requested, to a person appointed to serve process or to the requesting party's attorney.</p> <p>(3) Service, levy and execution of all process under this subsection, including, but not limited to, writs of execution,</p>

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		<p>orders of attachment, replevin orders, orders for delivery, writs of restitution and writs of assistance, must be made by a sheriff within the sheriff's county, by the sheriff's deputy, by an attorney admitted to the practice of law in Kansas, by a person licensed as a private detective pursuant to K.S.A. 75-7b01 et seq., and amendments thereto, or by a person appointed as a process server by a judge or clerk of the district court. A subpoena may also be served by any other person who is not a party and is at least 18 years of age. Process servers should be appointed freely and may be authorized either to serve process in a single case or in cases generally during a fixed period of time. An appointed process server, an authorized attorney or a licensed private detective may make the service anywhere in or outside this state and must be allowed the fees prescribed for the sheriff in K.S.A. 28-110 , and amendments thereto. The court may allow other fees and costs. A person authorized under this subsection to serve, levy or execute process is considered an "officer" as that term is used in K.S.A. 60-706 and 60-2401 , and amendments thereto.</p> <p>(4) In all cases when the person to be served, or an agent authorized by the person to accept service of process, refuses to receive the process, the offer of the duly authorized process server to deliver the process, and the refusal, is sufficient service of process.</p> <p>(e) Acknowledgment or appearance. An acknowledgment of service on the summons is equivalent to service. The voluntary</p>

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		appearance by a party is equivalent to service on the date of appearance.
Kentucky	<p>KY Rev. Stats. § 403.140(1)(a) Court has jurisdiction under the following conditions: (a) The court finds that one (1) of the parties, at the time the action was commenced, resided in this state, or was stationed in this state while a member of the armed services, and that the residence or military presence has been maintained for 180 days next preceding the filing of the petition;</p>	<p>KY Fam. Ct. R. Prac. P. 2(1)(a), (b) In a divorce proceeding, the other party must be served with the verified complaint when it is filed with the Clerk of Court</p> <p>KY Rev. Stats. § 403.150(4) (4) If a proceeding is commenced by one (1) of the parties, the other party must be served in the manner provided by the Rules of Civil Procedure and may file a verified response.</p> <p>KY Rules of Civ. Pro. 4.04(2) Service shall be made upon an individual within this Commonwealth, other than an unmarried infant or person of unsound mind, by delivering a copy of the summons and of the complaint (or other initiating document) to him personally or, if acceptance is refused by offering personal delivery to such person, or by delivering a copy of the summons and of the complaint (or other initiating document) to an agent authorized by appointment or by law to receive service of process for such individual</p>
Louisiana	<p>LSA-C.C.P. Art. 10(A)(6)-(7), (B). Court has jurisdiction under the following conditions: (A) (6) An action to annul a marriage if one or both of the parties are domiciled in this state.</p>	<p>La. Rev. Stat. § 13:3204 A. In a suit under R.S. 13:3201, a certified copy of the citation or the notice in a divorce under Civil Code Article 102 and of the petition or a certified copy of a contradictory motion, rule to show cause, or other pleading filed by the plaintiff in a summary proceeding under Code of Civil Procedure Article</p>

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	<p>(7) An action of divorce, if, at the time of filing, one or both of the spouses are domiciled in this state.</p> <p>(B) For purposes of Subparagraphs (6) and (7) of Paragraph A of this Article, if a spouse has established and maintained a residence in a parish of this state for a period of six months, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that he has a domicile in this state in the parish of such residence.</p>	<p>2592 shall be sent by counsel for the plaintiff, or by the plaintiff if not represented by counsel, to the defendant by registered or certified mail, or actually delivered to the defendant by commercial courier, when the person to be served is located outside of this state or by an individual designated by the court in which the suit is filed, or by one authorized by the law of the place where the service is made to serve the process of any of its courts of general, limited, or small claims jurisdiction.</p> <p>B. If service of process cannot be made on the nonresident by registered or certified mail or by actual delivery, the court shall order that service of process be made on an attorney at law appointed to represent the defendant pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Article 5091.</p> <p>C. Service of process so made has the same legal force and validity as personal service on the defendant in this state.</p> <p>D. For purposes of this Section, a "commercial courier" is any foreign or domestic business entity having as its primary purpose the delivery of letters and parcels of any type, and which:</p> <p>(1) Acquires a signed receipt from the addressee, or the addressee's agent, of the letter or parcel upon completion of delivery.</p> <p>(2) Has no direct or indirect interest in the outcome of the matter to which the letter or parcel concerns.</p>
Maine	<p>14 M.R.S. § 704-A (Persons subject to jurisdiction). Maine authorizes jurisdiction over nonresident defendants to the fullest extent permitted by the due process clause of the</p>	<p>Maine Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 4(c), (d)(1-3), (f)(2) (c) Service. Service of the summons, complaint, and notice regarding Electronic Service may be made as follows:</p>

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	<p>U.S. Constitution, Amend. XIV. Any person, Maine resident or not, who does certain acts submits to personal jurisdiction of Maine courts as to any cause of action arising from said acts, including:</p> <p>(C) "Conception resulting in parentage within the meaning of Title 19-A, chapter 61," and</p> <p>(G) "Maintaining a domicile in this State while subject to a marital or family relationship out of which arises a claim for divorce, alimony, separate maintenance, property settlement, child support or child custody, or the commission in this State of any act giving rise to such a claim."</p> <p>19-A M.R.S. § 851 (Judicial separation). Court has jurisdiction to enter a separation decree upon either a joint petition, or a petition by a married person, who lives apart or desires to do so for a period of more than 60 continuous days.</p> <p>19-A M.R.S. § 901 (Action for divorce; procedures) One seeking a divorce may file a complaint in District Court only if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) plaintiff has resided in good faith in Maine for 6 months prior; (B) plaintiff is a Maine resident and the parties were married in Maine; (C) plaintiff is a Maine resident and the parties resided in Maine when the cause of divorce accrued; or (D) the defendant is a Maine resident. 	<p>(1) By mailing a copy of the summons, complaint, and notice regarding Electronic Service (by first-class mail, postage prepaid) to the person to be served, together with two copies of a notice and acknowledgment form and a return envelope, postage prepaid, addressed to the sender. If no acknowledgment of service under this paragraph is received by the sender within 20 days after the date of mailing, service of the summons, complaint, and notice regarding Electronic Service shall be made under paragraph (2) or (3) of this subdivision.</p> <p>(2) By a sheriff or a deputy within the sheriff's county, or other person authorized by law, or by some person specially appointed by the court for that purpose. Special appointments to serve process shall be made freely when substantial savings in travel fees will result.</p> <p>(3) By any other method permitted or required by this rule or by statute.</p> <p>(d) Summons: Personal Service. The summons, complaint, and notice regarding Electronic Service shall be served together. Personal service within the state shall be made as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Upon an individual other than a minor or an incompetent person, by delivering a copy of the summons, complaint, and notice regarding Electronic Service to the individual personally or by leaving copies thereof at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of suitable age and discretion then residing therein or by delivering a copy of the summons, complaint, and notice

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		<p>regarding Electronic Service to an agent authorized by appointment or by law to receive service of process, provided that if the agent is one designated by statute to receive service, such further notice as the statute requires shall be given. The court, on motion, upon a showing that service as prescribed above cannot be made with due diligence, may order service to be made pursuant to subdivision (g) of this rule.</p> <p>(2) Upon a minor, by delivering a copy of the summons, complaint, and notice regarding Electronic Service personally (a) to the minor and (b) also to the minor’s guardian if the minor has one within the state, known to the plaintiff, and if not, then to the minor’s father or mother or other person having the minor’s care or control, or with whom the minor resides, or if service cannot be made upon any of them, then as provided by order of the court.</p> <p>(3) Upon an incompetent person, by delivering a copy of the summons, complaint, and notice regarding Electronic Service personally (a) to the guardian of the incompetent person or a competent adult member of the incompetent person’s family with whom the incompetent person resides, or if the incompetent person is living in an institution, then to the director or chief executive officer of the institution, or if service cannot be made upon any of them, then as provided by order of the court and (b) unless the court otherwise orders, also to the incompetent person.</p> <p>(f) Service by Mail in Certain Actions.</p>

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		<p>(2) Family Division Actions. Service of the summons, complaint, and notice regarding Electronic Service or a post-judgment motion may be made in an action pursuant to Chapter XIII of these Rules upon a person who is subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of the state by delivery to that person, whether in or outside the state, by registered or certified mail, with restricted delivery and return receipt requested.</p>
<p>Maryland</p>	<p>Md. Code Ann., Fam. Law § 1-201 (Jurisdiction of equity court.). (b) An equity court has jurisdiction over: . . . (2) alimony; (3) annulment; (4) divorce.</p> <p>[b]Md. Code Ann., Cts. & Jud. Pro. § 6-102. [/b](a) A court may exercise personal jurisdiction as to any cause of action over a person domiciled in, served with process in, organized under the laws of, or who maintains his principal place of business in the State.</p> <p>Md. Code Ann., Fam. Law § 7-101 (Residence requirement). If the grounds for the divorce occurred outside Maryland, a party may not apply for a divorce unless one of the parties has resided in Maryland for at least 6 months before the application is filed. (If the grounds for divorce occurred within the State, one party need only be currently living in Maryland at the time the application is filed).</p>	<p>Md. Rule of Civil Procedure, Rule 2-121</p> <p>(a) Generally. Service of process may be made within this State or, when authorized by the law of this State, outside of this State</p> <p>(1) by delivering to the person to be served a copy of the summons, complaint, and all other papers filed with it; (2) if the person to be served is an individual, by leaving a copy of the summons, complaint, and all other papers filed with it at the individual's dwelling house or usual place of abode with a resident of suitable age and discretion; or (3) by mailing to the person to be served a copy of the summons, complaint, and all other papers filed with it by certified mail requesting: "Restricted Delivery--show to whom, date, address of delivery." Service by certified mail under this Rule is complete upon delivery. Service outside of the State may also be made in the manner prescribed by the court or prescribed by the foreign jurisdiction if reasonably calculated to give actual notice.</p>

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
Massachusetts	<p>Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 215, § 3. Probate court has exclusive original jurisdiction of actions for divorce or for affirming or annulling marriage.</p> <p>Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 208, § 4. A divorce shall not, except as provided in the following section, be adjudged if the parties have never lived together as husband and wife in this commonwealth; nor for a cause which occurred in another jurisdiction, unless before such cause occurred the parties had lived together as husband and wife in this commonwealth, and one of them lived in this commonwealth at the time when the cause occurred.</p> <p>Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 208, § 5. If the plaintiff has lived in this commonwealth for one year last preceding the commencement of the action if the cause occurred without the commonwealth, or if the plaintiff is domiciled within the commonwealth at the time of the commencement of the action and the cause occurred within the commonwealth, a divorce may be adjudged for any cause allowed by law, unless it appears that the plaintiff has removed into this commonwealth for the purpose of obtaining a divorce.</p> <p>Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 208, § 6. Actions for divorce shall be filed, heard and determined in the probate court, held for the county where one of the parties lives, except that if either party still resides in the county where</p>	<p>Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 208, § 8. Actions for divorce in the probate courts shall be commenced in accordance with the Massachusetts Rules of Civil Procedure applicable to domestic relations procedure.</p>

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
	<p>the parties last lived together, the action shall be heard and determined in a court for that county. In the event of hardship or inconvenience to either party, the court having jurisdiction may transfer such action for hearing to a court in a county in which such party resides.</p>	
Michigan	<p>Mich. Comp. Laws § 552.6. (1) A complaint for divorce may be filed in the circuit court upon the allegation that there has been a breakdown of the marriage relationship to the extent that the objects of matrimony have been destroyed and there remains no reasonable likelihood that the marriage can be preserved. In the complaint the plaintiff shall make no other explanation of the grounds for divorce than by the use of the statutory language. . . .</p> <p>Mich. Comp. Laws § 552.9. (1) A judgment of divorce shall not be granted by a court in this state in an action for divorce unless the complainant or defendant has resided in this state for 180 days immediately preceding the filing of the complaint and, except as otherwise provided in subsection (2), the complainant or defendant has resided in the county in which the complaint is filed for 10 days immediately preceding the filing of the complaint. (2) A person may file a complaint for divorce in any county in the state without meeting the 10-day requirement set forth in subsection (1) if all of the following apply and are set forth in the complaint:</p>	<p>Mich. Comp. Laws § 552.9a. No decree of divorce shall be granted in any case except when 1 of the following facts exists: (a) The defendant is domiciled in this state at the time the bill of complaint for divorce is filed. (b) The defendant shall have been domiciled in this state when the cause for divorce alleged in the bill or petition arose. (c) The defendant shall have been brought in by publication or shall have been personally served with process in this state, or shall have been personally served with a copy of the order for appearance and publication within this state, or elsewhere, or has voluntarily appeared in the action or proceeding. Whenever any such order shall be served outside this state, proof of such service shall be made by the affidavit of the person who shall serve the same, made before a notary public, and when such affidavit shall be made outside this state it shall have attached the certificate of the clerk of a court of record, certifying to the official character of the notary and the genuineness of his or her signature to the jurat of the affidavit.</p> <p>MCR 3.203. Service of Notice and Court Documents in Domestic Relations Cases.</p>

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
	<p>(a) The defendant was born in, or is a citizen of, a country other than the United States of America.</p> <p>(b) The parties to the divorce action have a minor child or children.</p> <p>(c) There is information that would allow the court to reasonably conclude that the minor child or children are at risk of being taken out of the United States of America and retained in another country by the defendant.</p> <p>Mich. Comp. Laws § 552.9a. No decree of divorce shall be granted in any case except when 1 of the following facts exists:</p> <p>(a) The defendant is domiciled in this state at the time the bill of complaint for divorce is filed.</p> <p>(b) The defendant shall have been domiciled in this state when the cause for divorce alleged in the bill or petition arose.</p> <p>(c) The defendant shall have been brought in by publication or shall have been personally served with process in this state, or shall have been personally served with a copy of the order for appearance and publication within this state, or elsewhere, or has voluntarily appeared in the action or proceeding. Whenever any such order shall be served outside this state, proof of such service shall be made by the affidavit of the person who shall serve the same, made before a notary public, and when such affidavit shall be made outside this state it shall have attached the certificate of the clerk of a court of record, certifying to the official character of the notary and the</p>	<p>Sets forth requirements for service of the summons and complaint in domestic relations cases. Service must be pursuant to MCR 2.105 (see below), and notice must be provided as set forth in the statute requiring said notice. Service of the notice and of court documents otherwise must be served as provided in MRC 2.107, except that service by mail shall be to a party’s last known mailing address.</p>

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
	<p>genuineness of his or her signature to the jurat of the affidavit.</p> <p>Mich. Comp. Laws § 552.9e. Whenever the cause for divorce charged in the bill or petition has occurred out of this state, no decree of divorce shall be granted unless the complainant or defendant shall have resided in this state 1 year immediately preceding the filing of the bill of complaint for the divorce. Absence from this state for not to exceed 90 days shall not be construed as to interfere with the fulfillment of the 1-year residence requirement provided in the case of causes for divorce occurring without this state.</p>	
Minnesota	<p>Minn. Stat. § 518.07. Residence of parties. Subd. 1. General. Except as provided in subdivision 2, no dissolution shall be granted unless:</p> <p>(1) one of the parties has resided in this state, or has been a member of the armed services stationed in this state, for not less than 180 days immediately preceding the commencement of the proceeding; or</p> <p>(2) one of the parties has been a domiciliary of this state for not less than 180 days immediately preceding commencement of the proceeding.</p> <p>Subd. 2. Action for dissolution by certain nonresidents. (a) If neither party to the civil marriage is a resident of this state at the commencement of the proceeding, a court of this state has jurisdiction over the dissolution if:</p>	<p>Minn. Stat. § 518.11. Service; Alternate Service; Publication.</p> <p>(a) Unless a proceeding is brought by both parties, copies of the summons and petition shall be served on the respondent personally.</p> <p>(b) When service is made out of this state and within the United States, it may be proved by the affidavit of the person making the same. When service is made without the United States it may be proved by the affidavit of the person making the same, taken before and certified by any United States minister, charge d'affaires, commissioner, consul or commercial agent, or other consular or diplomatic officer of the United States appointed to reside in such country, including all deputies or other representatives of such officer authorized to perform their duties; or before an officer authorized to administer an oath</p>

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
	<p>(1) the civil marriage was performed in this state; and (2) neither party to the civil marriage resides in a jurisdiction that will maintain an action for dissolution by the parties because of the sex or sexual orientation of the spouses.</p> <p>(b) There is a rebuttable presumption that a jurisdiction will not maintain an action for dissolution if the jurisdiction does not recognize the civil marriage.</p> <p>(c) An action for dissolution authorized by this subdivision must be adjudicated in accordance with the laws of this state.</p> <p>Personal Jurisdiction: Is governed by the statutory long-arm statute (Minn. Stat. § 543.19). And there also must be minimum contacts between the party and the state, such that personal jurisdiction will not offend due process. <i>See Sherburne Cty. Soc. Servs. v. Kennedy</i>, 426 N.W.2d 866, 67 (Minn. 1988).</p> <p>Minn. Stat. § 518.09. Proceeding; How and Where Brought; Venue. A proceeding for dissolution or legal separation may be brought by either or both spouses and shall be commenced by personal service of the summons and petition venued in the county where either spouse resides. If neither party resides in the state and jurisdiction is based on the domicile of either spouse, the proceeding may be brought in the county where either party is domiciled. If neither party resides or is domiciled in this state and jurisdiction is premised upon one of the parties being a member of the armed services stationed in this</p>	<p>with the certificate of an officer of a court of record of the country wherein such affidavit is taken as to the identity and authority of the officer taking the same.</p> <p>(c) If personal service cannot be made, the court may order service of the summons by alternate means. The application for alternate service must include the last known location of the respondent; the petitioner's most recent contacts with the respondent; the last known location of the respondent's employment; the names and locations of the respondent's parents, siblings, children, and other close relatives; the names and locations of other persons who are likely to know the respondent's whereabouts; and a description of efforts to locate those persons.</p> <p>The court shall consider the length of time the respondent's location has been unknown, the likelihood that the respondent's location will become known, the nature of the relief sought, and the nature of efforts made to locate the respondent. The court shall order service by first class mail, forwarding address requested, to any addresses where there is a reasonable possibility that mail or information will be forwarded or communicated to the respondent or, if no address so qualifies, then to the respondent's last known address.</p> <p>If the petitioner seeks disposition of real estate located within the state of Minnesota, the court shall order that the summons,</p>

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
	<p>state for not less than 180 days immediately preceding the commencement of the proceeding, the proceeding may be brought in the county where the member is stationed. This venue shall be subject to the power of the court to change the place of hearing by consent of the parties, or when it appears to the court that an impartial hearing cannot be had in the county where the proceedings are pending, or when the convenience of the parties or the ends of justice would be promoted by the change. No summons shall be required if a joint petition is filed.</p>	<p>which shall contain the legal description of the real estate, be published in the county where the real estate is located. The court may also order publication, within or without the state, but only if it might reasonably succeed in notifying the respondent of the proceeding. Also, the court may require the petitioner to make efforts to locate the respondent by telephone calls to appropriate persons. Service shall be deemed complete 21 days after mailing or 21 days after court-ordered publication.</p> <p>See Minn. Stat. § 518.09 in Divorce and Legal Separation - Jurisdiction Section.</p> <p>Minn. Stat. § 518.091. Subd. 1 – sets forth a specific notice that every summons must include, when issued under this subdivision seeking a temporary restraining order.</p>
Mississippi	<p>MS Code § 93-5-5. Residence requirement for divorce. The jurisdiction of the chancery court in suits for divorce shall be confined to the following cases: (a) Where one (1) of the parties has been an actual bona fide resident within this state for six (6) months next preceding the commencement of the suit. If a member of the armed services of the United States is stationed in the state and residing within the state with his spouse, such person and his spouse shall be considered actual bona fide residents of the state for the purposes of this section, provided they were residing within the</p>	<p>Mississippi Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 5(b)(1) (1) Whenever under these rules service is required or permitted to be made upon a party who is represented by an attorney of record in the proceedings, the service shall be made upon such attorney unless service upon the party himself is ordered by the court. Service upon the attorney or upon a party shall be made by delivering a copy to him; or by transmitting it to him by electronic means; or by mailing it to him at his last known address, or if no address is known, by leaving it with the clerk of the court, or by transmitting it to the clerk by electronic</p>

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
	<p>state at the time of the separation of the parties. (b) In any case where the proof shows that a residence was acquired in this state with a purpose of securing a divorce, the court shall not take jurisdiction thereof, but dismiss the bill at the cost of complainant.</p> <p>MS Code § 93-5-11. Filing of complaints; transfer of venue. All complaints, except those based solely on the ground of irreconcilable differences, must be filed in the county in which the plaintiff resides, if the defendant be a nonresident of this state, or be absent, so that process cannot be served; and the manner of making such parties defendants so as to authorize a judgment against them in other chancery cases, shall be observed. If the defendant be a resident of this state, the complaint shall be filed in the county in which such defendant resides or may be found at the time, or in the county of the residence of the parties at the time of separation, if the plaintiff be still a resident of such county when the suit is instituted. A complaint for divorce based solely on the grounds of irreconcilable differences shall be filed in the county of residence of either party where both parties are residents of this state. If one (1) party is not a resident of this state, then the complaint shall be filed in the county where the resident party resides. Transfer of venue shall be governed by Rule 82(d) of the Mississippi Rules of Civil Procedure.</p>	<p>means. Delivery of a copy within this rule means: handing it to the attorney or to the party; or leaving it at his office with his clerk or other person in charge thereof; or, if there is no one in charge, leaving it in a conspicuous place therein; or, if the office is closed or the person to be served has no office, leaving it at his dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of suitable age and discretion then residing therein. Service by electronic means is complete when the electronic equipment being used by the attorney or party being served acknowledges receipt of the material. If the equipment used by the attorney or party being served does not automatically acknowledge the transmission, service is not complete until the sending party obtains an acknowledgment from the recipient. Service by mail is complete upon mailing.</p>
Missouri	Mo. Rev. Stat. § 452.240	Missouri Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 43.01(c)

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
	<p>The petition of a married person for any of the purposes before mentioned may be filed and the case heard and determined in the circuit court, and the like process and proceedings shall be had as in other civil suits triable before circuit judges.</p> <p>Mo. Rev. Stat. § 452.300(5)</p> <p>5. An original proceeding pursuant to sections 452.300 to 452.415 shall be commenced in the county in which the petitioner resides or in the county in which the respondent resides. If an original proceeding is commenced in the county in which the petitioner resides, upon motion by the respondent filed prior to the filing of a responsive pleading, the court in which the proceeding is commenced may transfer the proceeding to the county in which the respondent resides if:</p> <p>(1) The county in which the respondent resides had been the county in which the children resided during the ninety days immediately preceding the commencement of the proceeding; or</p> <p>(2) The best interest of the children will be served if the proceeding is transferred to the county in which the respondent resides because:</p> <p>(a) The children and at least one parent have a significant connection with the county; and</p> <p>(b) There is substantial evidence concerning the present or future care, protection and personal relationships of the children in the county.</p>	<p>(c) Service - How and by Whom Made. Attorneys and self-represented parties shall state in the signature blocks of their pleadings their current mailing addresses, telephone numbers, facsimile numbers, electronic addresses, and Missouri bar numbers if any. This information shall be kept current at all times. Service may be directed to any of these addresses.</p> <p>Unless otherwise ordered by the court, service required by Rules 43.01(a) and 43.01(b) may be made in the following manner:</p> <p>(1) Upon the attorney:</p> <p>(A) By delivering a copy to the attorney;</p> <p>(B) By leaving a copy at the attorney’s office with a clerk, receptionist, or secretary or with an attorney employed by or associated with the attorney to be served;</p> <p>(C) By facsimile transmission;</p> <p>(D) By electronic mail; or</p> <p>(E) By mailing a copy to the attorney at the attorney’s last known address;</p> <p>(2) Upon a party:</p> <p>(A) By delivering or mailing a copy to the party;</p> <p>(B) By facsimile transmission;</p> <p>(C) By electronic mail; or</p> <p>(D) By serving a copy in the manner provided for service of summons in Rule 54.13.</p>

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
	<p>MO ST 506.500</p> <p>1. Any person or firm, whether or not a citizen or resident of this state, or any corporation, who in person or through an agent does any of the acts enumerated in this section, thereby submits such person, firm, or corporation, and, if an individual, his personal representative, to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state as to any cause of action arising from the doing of any of such acts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The transaction of any business within this state; (2) The making of any contract within this state; (3) The commission of a tortious act within this state; (4) The ownership, use, or possession of any real estate situated in this state; (5) The contracting to insure any person, property or risk located within this state at the time of contracting; (6) Engaging in an act of sexual intercourse within this state with the mother of a child on or near the probable period of conception of that child. <p>2. Any person, whether or not a citizen or resident of this state, who has lived in lawful marriage within this state, submits himself to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state as to all civil actions for dissolution of marriage or for legal separation and all obligations arising for maintenance of a spouse, support of any child of the marriage, attorney's fees, suit money, or disposition of marital property, if the other party to the lawful marriage lives in this state or if a third party has</p>	

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
	<p>provided support to the spouse or to the children of the marriage and is a resident of this state.</p> <p>3. Only causes of action arising from acts enumerated in this section may be asserted against a defendant in an action in which jurisdiction over him is based upon this section.”</p> <p>Sufficient contacts with state exist to confer jurisdiction over non-resident defendant who “has lived in lawful marriage within this state, submits himself to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state as to all civil actions for dissolution of marriage or for legal separation and all obligations arising for maintenance of a spouse, support of any child of the marriage, attorney's fees, suit money, or disposition of marital property, if the other party to the lawful marriage lives in this state or if a third party has provided support to the spouse or to the children of the marriage and is a resident of this state.”</p>	
Montana	<p>MCA § 40-4-104(1)(a)</p> <p>(1) The district court shall enter a decree of dissolution of marriage if:</p> <p>(a) the court finds that one of the parties, at the time the action was commenced, was domiciled in this state, as provided in 25-2-118 , or was stationed in this state while a member of the armed services and that the domicile or military presence has been maintained for 90 days preceding the filing of the action;</p>	<p>MCA § 40-4-105(3)</p> <p>(3) If a proceeding is commenced by one of the parties, the other party must be served in the manner provided by the Montana Rules of Civil Procedure and may within 21 days after the date of service file a verified response. A decree may not be entered until 21 days after the date of service.</p> <p>Montana Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 4(d)-(e)</p> <p>(d) Service</p>

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
		<p>(1) In General. The summons and complaint must be served together. The plaintiff must furnish the necessary copies to the person who makes service.</p> <p>(2) In Person. Service of all process may be made in the county where the party to be served is found by a sheriff, deputy sheriff, constable, or any other person over the age of 18 not a party to the action.</p> <p>(3)</p> <p>(A) By Mail. A summons and complaint may also be served by mailing via first class mail, postage prepaid, the following to the person to be served:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) a copy of the summons and complaint; (ii) two copies of a notice and acknowledgment conforming substantially to form 18-A; and (iii) a return envelope, postage prepaid, addressed to the sender. <p>(B) A summons and complaint may not be served by mail to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) A minor; (ii) An incompetent person; or (iii) A corporation, partnership, or other unincorporated association, whether domestic or foreign. <p>(C) If no acknowledgment of service by mail is received by the sender within 21 days after the date of mailing, service of the summons and complaint must be made in person.</p>

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
		<p>(D) If a person served by mail does not complete and return the notice and acknowledgment within 21 days, the court must order that person to pay the costs of personal service unless good cause is shown for not doing so.</p> <p>(E) The notice and acknowledgment must be signed and dated by the defendant, and service of summons and complaint will be deemed complete on the date shown.</p> <p>(e) Serving an Individual. An individual -- other than a minor or an incompetent person -- must be served by either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) delivering a copy of the summons and complaint to the individual personally; or (2) delivering a copy of the summons and complaint to an agent authorized by appointment or law to receive service of process. If the agent is one designated by statute to receive service, such further notice as the statute requires must be given.
Nebraska	<p>Neb. Rev. Stat. § 42-348</p> <p>All proceedings under sections 42-347 to 42-381 shall be brought in the district court of the county in which one of the parties resides. Proceedings may be transferred to a separate juvenile court or county court sitting as a juvenile court which has acquired jurisdiction pursuant to section 43-2,113 . Certified copies of orders filed with the clerk of the court pursuant to such section shall be treated in the same manner as similar orders issued by the court.</p>	<p>Neb. Rev. Stat. § 42-352</p> <p>A proceeding under sections 42-347 to 42-381 shall be commenced by filing a complaint in the district court. The proceeding may be heard by the county court or the district court as provided in section 25-2740 . Summons shall be served upon the other party to the marriage by personal service or in the manner provided in section 25-517.02.</p> <p>Neb. Rev. Stat. § 25-517.02</p>

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
	<p>NE ST § 25-536: A court may exercise personal jurisdiction over a person:</p> <p>(1) Who acts directly or by an agent, as to a cause of action arising from the person:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Transacting any business in this state; (b) Contracting to supply services or things in this state; (c) Causing tortious injury by an act or omission in this state; (d) Causing tortious injury in this state by an act or omission outside this state if the person regularly does or solicits business, engages in any other persistent course of conduct, or derives substantial revenue from goods used or consumed or services rendered, in this state; (e) Having an interest in, using, or possessing real property in this state; or (f) Contracting to insure any person, property, or risk located within this state at the time of contracting; or <p>(2) Who has any other contact with or maintains any other relation to this state to afford a basis for the exercise of personal jurisdiction consistent with the Constitution of the United States.</p> <p>Note: In <i>Cummings</i>, the Court held that a person’s “act of sexual intercourse resulting in conception in Nebraska shows sufficient minimum contacts with the forum state for jurisdiction to attach” to the individual. <i>St., Dept. of Social Services v. Cummings</i>, 515 N.W.2d 680, 684 (Neb. App. Ct.</p>	<p>Upon motion and showing by affidavit that service cannot be made with reasonable diligence by any other method provided by statute, the court may permit service to be made (1) by leaving the process at the defendant's usual place of residence and mailing a copy by first-class mail to the defendant's last-known address, (2) by publication, or (3) by any manner reasonably calculated under the circumstances to provide the party with actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.</p>

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
	<p>1994). The Court explained that an “act of sexual intercourse in Nebraska with a Nebraska resident was indeed a purposeful act within Nebraska which is of a nature that [one] should . . . reasonably anticipate[] being haled into a Nebraska court when [said person] had sexual intercourse in Nebraska, sired a child, and then failed to pay child support.” Id. at 685.</p>	
Nevada	<p>NV Rev. St. 125.020 (1) Divorce from the bonds of matrimony may be obtained for the causes provided in NRS 125.010, by verified complaint to the district court of any county: (a) In which the cause therefor accrued; (b) In which the defendant resides or may be found; (c) In which the plaintiff resides; (d) In which the parties last cohabited; or (e) If plaintiff resided 6 weeks in the State before suit was brought. (2) Unless the cause of action accrued within the county while the plaintiff and defendant were actually domiciled therein, no court has jurisdiction to grant a divorce unless either the plaintiff or defendant has been resident of the State for a period of not less than 6 weeks preceding the commencement of the action.</p>	<p>NV Rev. St. 125.090 Except in a summary proceeding for divorce, the proceedings, pleadings and practice must conform to the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure as nearly as conveniently possible, but all preliminary and final orders may be in such form as best effects the object of this chapter, and produces substantial justice.</p>
New Hampshire	<p>NH Rev. St. Sec. 458:3 In any proceedings for annulment for any cause whether under statute or under common law, the court shall have jurisdiction to declare an annulment of a marriage entered into in this state even though neither party has been at any time a resident</p>	<p>NH Rev. St. Sec. 458:9 I. If the parties file a joint petition, the petition shall be filed at the appropriate court without further service or notice required. II. An individual petition shall be filed with the appropriate</p>

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
	<p>herein.</p> <p>NH Rev. St. Sec. 458:9 All petitions initiated under RSA 168-A, RSA 458, and RSA 458-C shall be brought in the county in which either party lives and before the superior court; and notice thereof shall be given to the respondent as required by this section.</p>	<p>court, together with the filing fee, by the petitioner. Upon the filing of a petition, the court shall issue orders of notice, attached to the petition, which the petitioner shall then serve on the respondent as provided in this section:</p> <p>(a) Service within the state shall be made either by:</p> <p>(1) A sheriff, in hand or by leaving an attested copy of the petition, orders of notice, and an appearance form at the respondent's abode, within 25 days of receipt of orders of notice. The return of service shall state the street and number, or some other description, of the abode. The petitioner shall file the return of service with the court as proof of service.</p> <p>(2) Certified mail, return receipt requested, restricted delivery, mailed within 7 days of receipt of orders of notice, signed by the addressee only. The petitioner shall file the return receipt with the court as proof of service.</p> <p>(b) Service outside the state shall be made either by:</p> <p>(1) An officer authorized to make service of process in the state where the respondent lives. Proof of out-of-state service shall be made by a return of the officer under oath, accompanied by an official certificate of his or her official character or authority. The petitioner shall file the return of service with the court as proof of service.</p> <p>(2) Certified mail, return receipt requested, restricted delivery, signed by the addressee only. The petitioner</p>

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
		<p>shall file the return receipt with the court as proof of service.</p> <p>II-a. In lieu of service as described in paragraph II, the court may, after issuing orders of notice, send notice to the respondent indicating that the petition has been filed and that the respondent or the respondent's attorney may accept service at the court within 10 days. If neither the respondent nor the attorney for the respondent accepts service at the court within 10 days as specified in the correspondence, the petition shall be forwarded to the petitioner for service in accordance with paragraph II.</p> <p>III. When the residence of the respondent is not known, the petition shall state the respondent's last known post office address, and the name and post office address of some near relative of the respondent, if any is known to the petitioner, and otherwise the name and post office address of some friend of the respondent, such facts to be verified by the petitioner's personal affidavit filed with the petition. The petitioner shall file the petition with the court together with the name and address of a newspaper published in the city or town nearest to the respondent's last known address. Service shall then be ordered by publication in the newspaper, with publication to be completed not less than 15 days before the return date, and by certified mail addressed to the respondent, care of the relative or friend of the respondent, or otherwise as the court may order. Publication may be waived for good cause upon motion to the court.</p>

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New Jersey	<p>NJ Rev Stat 2A:34-8 The Superior Court shall have jurisdiction of all causes of divorce, dissolution of a civil union, bed and board divorce, legal separation from a partner in a civil union couple or nullity when either party is a bona fide resident of this State. The Superior Court shall have jurisdiction of an action for alimony and maintenance when the defendant is subject to the personal jurisdiction of the court, is a resident of this State, or has tangible or intangible real or personal property within the jurisdiction of the court. The Superior Court may afford incidental relief as in other cases of an equitable nature and by rule of court may determine the venue of matrimonial and civil union actions.</p> <p>NJ Rev Stat 2A:34-10 Jurisdiction in actions for divorce, either absolute or from bed and board, and in actions for dissolution of a civil union or legal separation from a partner in a civil union couple may be acquired when process is served upon the defendant as prescribed by the rules of the Supreme Court, and</p> <p>1. When, at the time the cause of action arose, either party was a bona fide resident of this State, and has continued so to be down to the time of the commencement of the action; except that no action for absolute divorce or dissolution of a civil union shall be commenced for any cause other than adultery, unless one of the parties has been for the 1 year next</p>	<p>NJ Rev Stat 2A:34-60</p> <p>a. Notice required for the exercise of jurisdiction when a person is outside this State may be given in a manner prescribed by the law of this State for the service of process or by the law of the state in which the service is made. Notice shall be given in a manner reasonably calculated to give actual notice, but may be by publication if other means are not effective.</p> <p>b. Proof of service may be made in the manner prescribed by the law of this State or by the law of the state in which the service is made.</p> <p>c. Notice is not required for the exercise of jurisdiction with respect to a person who submits to the jurisdiction of the court.</p>

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	<p>preceding the commencement of the action a bona fide resident of this State; or</p> <p>2. When, since the cause of action arose, either party has become, and for at least 1 year next preceding the commencement of the action has continued to be, a bona fide resident of this State.</p>	
New Mexico	<p>N.M. St. 38-1-16(A)(5) Sufficient contacts with state exist to confer jurisdiction over non-resident defendant “with respect to actions for divorce, separate maintenance or annulment, the circumstance of living in the marital relationship within the state, notwithstanding subsequent departure from the state, as to all obligations arising from alimony, child support or real or personal property settlements under Chapter 40, Article 4 NMSA 1978 if one party to the marital relationship continues to reside in the state.”</p>	<p><i>Service may be accomplished generally:</i></p> <p>N.M. R. Civ. P. 1-004 (E)(1) Process shall be served in a manner reasonably calculated to apprise the defendant of the action and to “afford a reasonable opportunity to appear and defend.”</p> <p>N.M. R. Civ. P. 1-004 (E)(3) “Service may be made by mail or commercial courier service provided that the envelope is addressed to the named defendant and further provided that” defendant or other authorized person signs and accepts service.</p> <p>N.M. R. Civ. P. 1-004 (F)(1)(a) Personal Service may be affected by: Service on the individual personally, or if refused, by leaving the process at a location where the individual has been found.</p> <p>N.M. R. Civ. P. 1-004 (F)(2) If, after attempts of personal service, and defendant has not signed or accepted, service may be made by:</p>

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		<p>delivering a copy of the process to some person residing at the usual place of abode of defendant who is over the age of 15 and by mailing by first class mail to the defendant at the defendant’s last known mailing address a copy of the process; or in the event the above fail, service of process may be made by delivering a copy of the process at the actual place of business or employment of the defendant to the person apparently in charge thereof and by mailing a copy of the summons and complaint by first-class mail to the defendant at the defendant’s last known mailing address and at the defendant’s actual place of business or employment.</p> <p><i>In a manner approved by court upon affidavit showing that service cannot reasonably be made:</i></p> <p>N.M. R. Civ. P. 1-004 (J) The court may order service by any method, including publication, reasonably calculated to apprise the defendant of the existence of the action and afford reasonable opportunity to appear and defend.</p>
New York	<p>N.Y. R. Civ. P. 302 (b) Personal jurisdiction over non-resident defendant in matrimonial actions or family court proceedings. A court shall have jurisdiction over the respondent or defendant notwithstanding the fact that he or she no longer is a resident or domiciliary of this state, if the party seeking support is a resident of or domiciled in this state at the time</p>	<p>NY R. Civ. P. 308 Personal service upon a natural person shall be made by any of the following methods:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. by delivering the summons within the state to the person to be served; or 2. by delivering the summons within the state to a person of

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	<p>such demand is made, provided that this state was the matrimonial domicile of the parties before their separation, or the defendant abandoned the plaintiff in this state, or the claim for support, alimony, maintenance, distributive awards or special relief in matrimonial actions accrued under the laws of this state or under an agreement executed in this state.</p>	<p>suitable age and discretion at the actual place of business, dwelling place or usual place of abode of the person to be served and by either mailing the summons to the person to be served at his or her last known residence or by mailing the summons by first class mail to the person to be served at his or her actual place of business in an envelope bearing the legend "personal and confidential" and not indicating on the outside thereof, by return address or otherwise, that the communication is from an attorney or concerns an action against the person to be served, such delivery and mailing to be effected within twenty days of each other; proof of such service shall be filed with the clerk of the court designated in the summons within twenty days of either such delivery or mailing, whichever is effected later; service shall be complete ten days after such filing; proof of service shall identify such person of suitable age and discretion and state the date, time and place of service, except in matrimonial actions where service hereunder may be made pursuant to an order made in accordance with the provisions of subdivision a of section two hundred thirty-two of the domestic relations law ; or</p> <p>3. by delivering the summons within the state to the agent for service of the person to be served as designated under rule 318 , except in matrimonial actions where service hereunder may be made pursuant to an order made in accordance with the provisions of subdivision a of section two hundred thirty-two of the domestic relations law ;</p> <p>4. where service under paragraphs one and two cannot be</p>

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		<p>made with due diligence, by affixing the summons to the door of either the actual place of business, dwelling place or usual place of abode within the state of the person to be served and by either mailing the summons to such person at his or her last known residence or by mailing the summons by first class mail to the person to be served at his or her actual place of business in an envelope bearing the legend “personal and confidential” and not indicating on the outside thereof, by return address or otherwise, that the communication is from an attorney or concerns an action against the person to be served, such affixing and mailing to be effected within twenty days of each other; proof of such service shall be filed with the clerk of the court designated in the summons within twenty days of either such affixing or mailing, whichever is effected later; service shall be complete ten days after such filing, except in matrimonial actions where service hereunder may be made pursuant to an order made in accordance with the provisions of subdivision a of section two hundred thirty-two of the domestic relations law ;</p> <p>5. in such manner as the court, upon motion without notice, directs, if service is impracticable under paragraphs one, two and four of this section.</p> <p>6. For purposes of this section, “actual place of business” shall include any location that the defendant, through regular solicitation or advertisement, has held out as its place of business.</p>

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		<p>NY R. Civ. P. 312-a Service by mail. As an alternative to the methods of personal service authorized by section 307, 308 , 310 , 311 or 312 of this article, a summons and complaint, or summons and notice, or notice of petition and petition may be served by the plaintiff or any other person by mailing to the person or entity to be served, by first class mail, postage prepaid, a copy of the summons and complaint, or summons and notice or notice of petition and petition, together with two copies of a statement of service by mail and acknowledgement of receipt in the form set forth in subdivision (d) of this section, with a return envelope, postage prepaid, addressed to the sender.</p>
North Carolina	<p>N.C.G.S. § 50-3 In all proceedings for divorce, the summons shall be returnable to the court of the county in which either the plaintiff or defendant resides.</p> <p>[In] any action brought under Chapter 50 for alimony or divorce filed in a county where the plaintiff resides but the defendant does not reside, where both parties are residents of the State of North Carolina, and where the plaintiff removes from the State and ceases to be a resident, the action may be removed upon motion of the defendant, for trial or for any motion in the cause, either before or after judgment, to the county in which the defendant resides. The judge, upon such</p>	<p>N.C.G.S. § 1A-1, Rule 5(b) (b) Service - How made. - A pleading setting forth a counterclaim or cross claim shall be filed with the court and a copy thereof shall be served on the party against whom it is asserted or on the party's attorney of record as provided by this subsection.</p> <p>With respect to all pleadings subsequent to the original complaint and other papers required or permitted to be served, service shall be made upon the party's attorney of record and, if ordered by the court, also upon the party. If the party has no attorney of record, service shall be made upon the party. Service is made under this subsection if performed through the court's electronic filing system. When service through the</p>

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	<p>motion, shall order the removal of the action, and the procedures of G.S. 1-87 shall be followed.</p>	<p>court's electronic filing system is not available, or the party is not registered to receive service through the court's electronic filing system, service may be made as follows:</p> <p>(1) Upon a party's attorney of record:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. By delivering a copy to the attorney. Delivery of a copy within this sub-subdivision means handing it to the attorney, leaving it at the attorney's office with a partner or employee, or sending it to the attorney's office by a confirmed telefacsimile transmittal for receipt by 5:00 P.M. Eastern Time on a regular business day, as evidenced by a telefacsimile receipt confirmation. If receipt of delivery by telefacsimile is after 5:00 P.M., service will be deemed to have been completed on the next business day. Service may also be made on the attorney by electronic mail (e-mail) to an e-mail address of record with the court in the case. Such e-mail must be sent by 5:00 P.M. Eastern Time on a regular business day. If the e-mail is sent after 5:00 P.M., it will be deemed to have been sent on the next business day. b. By mailing a copy to the attorney's office. c. In the manner provided in Rule 4 for service and return of process. <p>(2) Upon a party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. By delivering a copy to the party. Delivery of a copy within this sub-subdivision means handing it to the party.

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		<p>b. By mailing a copy to the party at the party's last known address or, if no address is known, by filing it with the clerk of court.</p> <p>c. Service may also be made on the party by electronic mail (e-mail) if the party has consented to receive e-mail service in the case at a particular e-mail address, and a copy of the consent is filed with the court by any party. Such e-mail must be sent by 5:00 P.M. Eastern Time on a regular business day. If the e-mail is sent after 5:00 P.M. Eastern Time, it will be deemed to have been sent on the next business day.</p> <p>d. In the manner provided in Rule 4 for service and return of process.</p> <p>Service by mail shall be complete upon deposit of the pleading or paper enclosed in a post-paid, properly addressed wrapper in a post office or official depository under the exclusive care and custody of the United States Postal Service.</p> <p>N.C.G.S. § 1A-1, Rule 4(j)(1-2)</p> <p>(j) Process - Manner of service to exercise personal jurisdiction. In any action commenced in a court of this State having jurisdiction of the subject matter and grounds for personal jurisdiction as provided in G.S. 1-75.4 , the manner of service of process within or without the State shall be as follows:</p> <p>(1) Natural Person. - Except as provided in subdivision (2) below, upon a natural person by one of the following:</p>

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		<p>a. By delivering a copy of the summons and of the complaint to the natural person or by leaving copies thereof at the defendant's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of suitable age and discretion then residing therein.</p> <p>b. By delivering a copy of the summons and of the complaint to an agent authorized by appointment or by law to be served or to accept service of process or by serving process upon such agent or the party in a manner specified by any statute.</p> <p>c. By mailing a copy of the summons and of the complaint, registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the party to be served, and delivering to the addressee.</p> <p>d. By depositing with a designated delivery service authorized pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 7502 (f)(2) a copy of the summons and complaint, addressed to the party to be served, delivering to the addressee, and obtaining a delivery receipt. As used in this sub-subdivision, "delivery receipt" includes an electronic or facsimile receipt.</p> <p>e. By mailing a copy of the summons and of the complaint by signature confirmation as provided by the United States Postal Service, addressed to the party to be served, and delivering to the addressee.</p> <p>(2) Natural Person under Disability. - Upon a natural person under disability by serving process in any manner prescribed in this section (j) for service upon a natural person and, in</p>

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		<p>addition, where required by paragraph a or b below, upon a person therein designated.</p> <p>a. Where the person under disability is a minor, process shall be served separately in any manner prescribed for service upon a natural person upon a parent or guardian having custody of the child, or if there be none, upon any other person having the care and control of the child. If there is no parent, guardian, or other person having care and control of the child when service is made upon the child, then service of process must also be made upon a guardian ad litem who has been appointed pursuant to Rule 17.</p> <p>b. If the plaintiff actually knows that a person under disability is under guardianship of any kind, process shall be served separately upon his guardian in any manner applicable and appropriate under this section (j). If the plaintiff does not actually know that a guardian has been appointed when service is made upon a person known to him to be incompetent to have charge of his affairs, then service of process must be made upon a guardian ad litem who has been appointed pursuant to Rule 17.</p>
North Dakota	<p>N.D.C.C. § 14-05-17 A separation or divorce may not be granted unless the plaintiff in good faith has been a resident of the state for six months next preceding commencement of the action. If the plaintiff has not been a resident of this state for the six months preceding commencement of the action, a separation or divorce may be</p>	<p>N.D. R. Civ. P. 5(b) (b) Service—How made. (1) Service in general. A document that is required to be filed must be served electronically under the procedure specified in N.D.R.Ct. 3.5. Electronic service on an attorney must be made to the designated e-mail service address posted on</p>

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	<p>granted if the plaintiff in good faith has been a resident of this state for the six months immediately preceding entry of the decree of separation or divorce.</p>	<p>the N.D. Supreme Court website. Electronic service is complete on transmission. Except as provided in N.D.R.Ct. 3.5(e)(4), electronic service is not effective if the serving party learns through any means that the document did not reach the person to be served.</p> <p>(2) Persons Served.</p> <p>(A) Service on a Party Represented by an Attorney. If a party is represented by an attorney, service under this rule must be made on the attorney unless the court orders service on the party. If an attorney is providing limited representation under Rule 11(e), service must be made on the party and on the attorney for matters within the scope of the limited representation.</p> <p>(B) Persons Exempt from Electronic Service. Persons who are exempt from electronic service and filing under N.D.R.Ct. 3.5 must serve documents under Rule 5(b)(3).</p> <p>(3) Other Service. A document that is not required to be filed, or that will be served on a person exempt from electronic service, is served under this rule by:</p> <p>(A) handing it to the person;</p> <p>(B) leaving it:</p> <p>(i) at the person's office with a clerk or other person in charge or, if no one is in charge, leaving it in a conspicuous place in the office; or,</p> <p>(ii) if the person has no office or the office is closed, at the person's dwelling or usual place of abode with</p>

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		<p>someone of suitable age and discretion who resides there;</p> <p>(C) mailing it to the person's last known address, in which event service is complete upon mailing;</p> <p>(D) sending it by a third-party commercial carrier to the person's last known address, in which event service is complete upon deposit of the document to be served with the commercial carrier;</p> <p>(E) if no address is known, on order of the court by leaving it with the clerk of court;</p> <p>(F) sending it by electronic means if the person consented in writing, in which event service is complete on transmission, but is not effective if the serving party learns that it did not reach the person to be served; or</p> <p>(G) delivering it by any other means that the person consented to in writing.</p>
Ohio	<p>OH R.C. 3105.011(A) (A) The court of common pleas including divisions of courts of domestic relations, has full equitable powers and jurisdiction appropriate to the determination of all domestic relations matters. This section is not a determination by the general assembly that such equitable powers and jurisdiction do not exist with respect to any such matter.</p> <p>OH R.C. 3105.03 The plaintiff in actions for divorce and annulment shall have been a resident of the state at least six months immediately</p>	<p>OH R.C. 3105.06 If the residence of a defendant in an action for divorce, annulment, or legal separation is unknown, or if the defendant is not a resident of this state or is a resident of this state but absent from the state, notice of the pendency of the action shall be given by publication as provided by the Rules of Civil Procedure.</p> <p>Ohio R.Civ.P. 4.1 (A) Service by clerk. (1) Methods of service.</p>

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	<p>before filing the complaint. Actions for divorce and annulment shall be brought in the proper county for commencement of action pursuant to the Rules of Civil Procedure. The court of common pleas shall hear and determine the case, whether the marriage took place, or the cause of divorce or annulment occurred, within or without the state.</p> <p>Actions for legal separation shall be brought in the proper county for commencement of actions pursuant to the Rules of Civil Procedure.</p>	<p>(a) Service by United States certified or express mail. Evidenced by return receipt signed by any person, service of any process shall be by United States certified or express mail unless otherwise permitted by these rules. The clerk shall deliver a copy of the process and complaint or other document to be served to the United States Postal Service for mailing at the address set forth in the caption or at the address set forth in written instructions furnished to the clerk as certified or express mail return receipt requested, with instructions to the delivering postal employee to show to whom delivered, date of delivery, and address where delivered.</p> <p>(b) Service by commercial carrier service. Unless the serving party furnishes written instructions to the clerk that service be made pursuant to Civ.R. 4.1(A)(1)(a), the clerk may make service of any process by a commercial carrier service utilizing any form of delivery requiring a signed receipt. The clerk shall deliver a copy of the process and complaint or other document to be served to a commercial carrier service for delivery at the address set forth in the caption or at the address set forth in written instructions furnished to the clerk, with instructions to the carrier to return a signed receipt showing to whom delivered, date of delivery, and address where delivered.</p> <p>(B) Personal service. When the plaintiff files a written request with the clerk for personal service, service of process shall be made by that method.</p>

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		<p>When process issued from the Supreme Court, a court of appeals, a court of common pleas, or a county court is to be served personally under this division, the clerk of the court shall deliver the process and sufficient copies of the process and complaint, or other document to be served, to the sheriff of the county in which the party to be served resides or may be found. When process issues from the municipal court, delivery shall be to the bailiff of the court for service on all defendants who reside or may be found within the county or counties in which that court has territorial jurisdiction and to the sheriff of any other county in this state for service upon a defendant who resides in or may be found in that other county. In the alternative, process issuing from any of these courts may be delivered by the clerk to any person not less than eighteen years of age, who is not a party and who has been designated by order of the court to make personal service of process under this division. The person serving process shall locate the person to be served and shall tender a copy of the process and accompanying documents to the person to be served. When the copy of the process has been served, the person serving process shall endorse that fact on the process and return it to the clerk, who shall make the appropriate entry on the appearance docket.</p>

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		<p>When the person serving process is unable to serve a copy of the process within twenty-eight days, the person shall endorse that fact and the reasons therefor on the process and return the process and copies to the clerk who shall make the appropriate entry on the appearance docket. In the event of failure of service, the clerk shall follow the notification procedure set forth in division (A)(2) of this rule. Failure to make service within the twenty-eight day period and failure to make proof of service do not affect the validity of the service.</p> <p>(C) Residence service. When the plaintiff files a written request with the clerk for residence service, service of process shall be made by that method.</p> <p>When process is to be served under this division, deliver the process and sufficient copies of the process and complaint, or other document to be served, to the sheriff of the county in which the party to be served resides or may be found. When process issues from the municipal court, delivery shall be to the bailiff of the court for service on all defendants who reside or may be found within the county or counties in which that court has territorial jurisdiction and to the sheriff of any other county in this state for service upon a defendant who resides in or may be found in that county. In the alternative, process may be delivered by the clerk to any person not less than eighteen years of age, who is not a party and who has been designated by order of the court to make residence service of process</p>

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
		<p>under this division. The person serving process shall effect service by leaving a copy of the process and the complaint, or other document to be served, at the usual place of residence of the person to be served with some person of suitable age and discretion then residing therein. When the copy of the process has been served, the person serving process shall endorse that fact on the process and return it to the clerk, who shall make the appropriate entry on the appearance docket.</p> <p>When the person serving process is unable to serve a copy of the process within twenty-eight days, the person shall endorse that fact and the reasons therefor on the process, and return the process and copies to the clerk, who shall make the appropriate entry on the appearance docket. In the event of failure of service, the clerk shall follow the notification procedure set forth in division (A)(2) of this rule. Failure to make service within the twenty-eight-day period and failure to make proof of service do not affect the validity of service.</p>
Oklahoma	<p>Oklahoma has a patchwork of laws related to minimum contacts. Laws related to marriage and family are codified by</p> <p>43 OK Stat § 43-601-201</p> <p>A. In a proceeding to establish or enforce a support order or to determine parentage of a child, a tribunal of this state may exercise personal jurisdiction over a nonresident individual or the individual's guardian or conservator if:</p>	<p>12 OK Stat § 12-2004(C)(1)-(2)</p> <p>1. Service by Personal Delivery</p> <p>(c) Service shall be made as follows:</p> <p>(1) an individual other than an infant who is less than fifteen (15) years of age or an incompetent person, by delivering a copy of the summons and of the petition personally or by leaving copies thereof at the person's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person then residing therein who is fifteen (15) years of age or older or by</p>

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	<p>1. The individual is personally served with summons within this state;</p> <p>2. The individual submits to the jurisdiction of this state by consent, by entering a general appearance, or by filing a responsive document having the effect of waiving any contest to personal jurisdiction;</p> <p>3. The individual resided with the child in this state;</p> <p>4. The individual resided in this state and provided prenatal expenses or support for the child;</p> <p>5. The child resides in this state as a result of the acts or directives of the individual;</p> <p>6. The individual engaged in sexual intercourse in this state and the child may have been conceived by that act of intercourse;</p> <p>7. The individual asserted parentage of a child in the putative father registry maintained in this state by the appropriate agency; or</p> <p>8. There is any other basis consistent with the constitutions of this state and the United States for the exercise of personal jurisdiction.</p> <p>B. The bases of personal jurisdiction set forth in subsection A of this section or in any other law of this state may not be used to acquire personal jurisdiction for a tribunal of this state to modify a child support order of another state unless the requirements of Section 601-611 of this title are met, or, in the case of a foreign support order, unless the requirements of Section 601-615 are met.</p>	<p>delivering a copy of the summons and of the petition to an agent authorized by appointment or by law to receive service of process,</p> <p>(2) upon an infant who is less than fifteen (15) years of age, by serving the summons and petition personally and upon either of the infant's parents or guardian, or if they cannot be found, then upon the person having the care or control of the infant or with whom the infant lives; and upon an incompetent person by serving the summons and petition personally and upon the incompetent person's guardian,</p> <p>(3) upon a domestic or foreign corporation or upon a partnership or other unincorporated association which is subject to suit under a common name, by delivering a copy of the summons and of the petition to an officer, a managing or general agent, or to any other agent authorized by appointment or by law to receive service of process and, if the agent is one authorized by statute to receive service and the statute so requires, by also mailing a copy to the defendant,</p> <p>(4) upon the United States or an officer or agency thereof in the manner specified by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4,</p> <p>(5) upon a state, county, school district, public trust or municipal corporation or other governmental organization thereof subject to suit, by delivering a copy of the summons and of the petition to the officer or individual designated by specific statute; however, if there is no statute, then upon the chief executive officer or a clerk,</p>

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		<p>secretary, or other official whose duty it is to maintain the official records of the organization, and</p> <p>(6) upon an inmate incarcerated in an institution under the jurisdiction and control of the Department of Corrections, by delivering a copy of the summons and of the petition to the warden or superintendent or the designee of the warden or superintendent of the institution where the inmate is housed. It shall be the duty of the receiving warden or superintendent or a designee to promptly deliver the summons and petition to the inmate named therein. The warden or superintendent or his or her designee shall reject service of process for any inmate who is not actually present in said institution.</p> <p>(2) SERVICE BY MAIL.</p> <p>a. At the election of the plaintiff, a summons and petition may be served by mail by the plaintiff's attorney, any person authorized to serve process pursuant to subparagraph a of paragraph 1 of this subsection, or by the court clerk upon a defendant of any class referred to in division (1), (3) or (5) of subparagraph c of paragraph 1 of this subsection. Service by mail shall be effective on the date of receipt or if refused, on the date of refusal of the summons and petition by the defendant.</p> <p>b. Service by mail shall be accomplished by mailing a copy of the summons and petition by certified mail, return receipt requested and delivery restricted to the addressee. When there</p>

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		<p>is more than one defendant, the summons and a copy of the petition or order shall be mailed in a separate envelope to each defendant. If the summons is to be served by mail by the court clerk, the court clerk shall enclose the summons and a copy of the petition or order of the court to be served in an envelope, prepared by the plaintiff, addressed to the defendant, or to the resident service agent if one has been appointed. The court clerk shall prepay the postage and mail the envelope to the defendant, or service agent, by certified mail, return receipt requested and delivery restricted to the addressee. The return receipt shall be prepared by the plaintiff. Service by mail to a garnishee shall be accomplished by mailing a copy of the summons and notice by certified mail, return receipt requested, and at the election of the judgment creditor by restricted delivery, to the addressee.</p> <p>c. Service by mail shall not be the basis for the entry of a default or a judgment by default unless the record contains a return receipt showing acceptance by the defendant or a returned envelope showing refusal of the process by the defendant. Acceptance or refusal of service by mail by a person who is fifteen (15) years of age or older who resides at the defendant's dwelling house or usual place of abode shall constitute acceptance or refusal by the party addressed.</p>
Oregon	<p>ORS 107.075 Jurisdiction; residency requirement (1) If the marriage was solemnized in this state and either party is a resident of or domiciled in the state at the time the suit is commenced, a suit for its annulment or dissolution may be</p>	<p>ORS 107.087 Whenever a suit for dissolution, separation or annulment is initiated under ORS 107.085 and the child support rights of one of the parties or of a child of both of the parties have been</p>

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	<p>maintained where the ground alleged is one set forth in ORS 106.020 or 107.015.</p> <p>(2) When the marriage was not solemnized in this state or when any ground other than set forth in ORS 106.020 or 107.015 is alleged, at least one party must be a resident of or be domiciled in this state at the time the suit is commenced and continuously for a period of six months prior thereto.</p> <p>(3) In a suit for separation, one of the parties must be a resident of or domiciled in this state at the time the suit is commenced.</p> <p>(4) Residence or domicile under subsection (2) or (3) of this section is sufficient to give the court jurisdiction without regard to the place where the marriage was solemnized or where the cause of suit arose.</p> <p>ORS 106.020 or 107.015 relate to prohibited marriages and grounds for annulment of marriage.</p>	<p>assigned to the state, a true copy of the petition shall be served by mail or personal delivery on the Administrator of the Division of Child Support of the Department of Justice or on the branch office providing support services to the county in which the suit is filed.</p>
Pennsylvania	<p><i>Bases of Jurisdiction</i></p> <p>23 Pa. C.S.A. § 3104</p> <p>(a) Jurisdiction.—The courts shall have original jurisdiction in cases of divorce and for the annulment of void or voidable marriages and shall determine, in conjunction with any decree granting a divorce or annulment, the following matters, if raised in the pleadings, and issue appropriate decrees or orders with reference thereto, and may retain continuing jurisdiction thereof:</p>	<p>Pa. R.C.P. No. 1920.4</p> <p>(a) Service of original process and proof of service in an action pursuant to this chapter shall be in accordance with Rule 1930.4.</p> <p>(b) Service of the complaint in the manner provided by Rule 1930.4 shall constitute service of process with respect to any claim which may under the Divorce Code be joined with an action of divorce or for annulment.</p> <p>(c) In an action under Section 3301(d)1 of the Divorce Code, if no appearance has been entered and plaintiff avers that</p>

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	<p>(1) The determination and disposition of property rights and interests between spouses, including any rights created by any antenuptial, postnuptial or separation agreement and including the partition of property held as tenants by the entireties or otherwise and any accounting between them, and the order of any spousal support, alimony, alimony pendente lite, counsel fees or costs authorized by law.</p> <p>(2) The future care, custody and visitation rights as to children of the marriage or purported marriage.</p> <p>(3) Any support or assistance which shall be paid for the benefit of any children of the marriage or purported marriage.</p> <p>(4) Any property settlement involving any of the matters set forth in paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) as submitted by the parties.</p> <p>(5) Any other matters pertaining to the marriage and divorce or annulment authorized by law and which fairly and expeditiously may be determined and disposed of in such action.</p> <p>(b) Residence and domicile of parties.—No spouse is entitled to commence an action for divorce or annulment under this part unless at least one of the parties has been a bona fide resident in this Commonwealth for at least six months immediately previous to the commencement of the action. Both parties shall be competent witnesses to prove their respective residence, and proof of actual residence within this</p>	<p>defendant cannot be located after diligent search, the court may waive service of the affidavit.</p> <p>(d) The defendant may accept service of the complaint as provided by Rule 1930.4. Acceptance of service shall not be deemed collusive.</p>

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	<p>Commonwealth for six months shall create a presumption of domicile within this Commonwealth.</p> <p>(c) Powers of court.—The court has authority to entertain an action under this part notwithstanding the fact that the marriage of the parties and the cause for divorce occurred outside of this Commonwealth and that both parties were at the time of the occurrence domiciled outside this Commonwealth. The court also has the power to annul void or voidable marriages celebrated outside this Commonwealth at a time when neither party was domiciled within this Commonwealth.</p> <p>(d) Foreign forum.—After the dissolution or annulment of a marriage in a foreign forum where a matter under subsection (a) has not been decided, a court of this Commonwealth shall have jurisdiction to determine a matter under subsection (a) to the fullest extent allowed under the Constitution of the United States.</p>	
Rhode Island	<p>8 R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 8-10-3</p> <p>(a) There is hereby established a family court, consisting of a chief judge and eleven (11) associate justices, to hear and determine all petitions for divorce from the bond of marriage and from bed and board; all motions for allowance, alimony, support and custody of children, allowance of counsel and witness fees, and other matters arising out of petitions and motions relative to real and personal property in aid thereof, including, but not limited to, partitions, accountings, receiverships, sequestration of assets, resulting and</p>	<p>15 R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 15-5-20</p> <p>No person shall be entitled to a divorce from the bond of marriage unless the defendant, in accordance with rules adopted by the court, has been personally served with process if within the state, or with personal notice duly authenticated if out of the state, or unless the defendant has entered an appearance in the cause; or unless it appears to the satisfaction of the court that the petitioner does not know the address nor the residence of the defendant and has not been able to ascertain either after reasonable and due inquiry and search for</p>

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	<p>constructive trust, impressions of trust, and such other equitable matters arising out of the family relationship, wherein jurisdiction is acquired by the court by the filing of petitions for divorce, bed and board and separate maintenance; all motions for allowance for support and educational costs of children attending high school at the time of their eighteenth (18th) birthday and up to ninety (90) days after high school graduation, but in no case beyond their nineteenth (19th) birthday; enforcement of any order or decree granting alimony and/or child support, and/or custody and/or visitation of any court of competent jurisdiction of another state; modification of any order or decree granting alimony and/or custody and/or visitation of any court of competent jurisdiction of another state on the ground that there has been a change of circumstances; modification of any order or decree granting child support of any court of competent jurisdiction of another state provided: (1) the order has been registered in Rhode Island for the purposes of modification pursuant to § 15-23.1-611, or (2) Rhode Island issued the order and has continuing exclusive jurisdiction over the parties; antenuptial agreements, property settlement agreements and all other contracts between persons, who at the time of execution of the contracts, were husband and wife or planned to enter into that relationship; complaints for support of parents and children; those matters relating to delinquent, wayward, dependent, neglected, or children with disabilities who by reason of any disability requires special education or treatment and other</p>	<p>six (6) months, in which case the court, or in vacation a judge of the court, may authorize notice by publication of the pendency of the petition for divorce to be given in a manner provided by law; provided, that in cases where indigence has been established, the court may, as an alternative to publication and upon motion and in appropriate circumstance, authorize an alternate means of service of process in the manner provided by Rule 4 of the family court rules of procedure for domestic relations.</p> <p>15 R.I. Gen. Laws Ann. § 15-5-15 Whenever any petition for divorce has been filed or is pending in the family court, and the court is of the opinion that sufficient notice of the pendency of the petition has not, from any cause, been given to the adverse party, the court may order notice or further notice to the adverse party to be given in the manner that the court may prescribe.</p>

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	<p>related services; to hear and determine all petitions for guardianship of any child who has been placed in the care, custody, and control of the department for children, youth, and families pursuant to the provisions of chapter 1 of title 14 and chapter 11 of title 40; adoption of children under eighteen (18) years of age; change of names of children under the age of eighteen (18) years; paternity of children born out of wedlock and provision for the support and disposition of such children or their mothers; child marriages; those matters referred to the court in accordance with the provisions of § 14-1-28; those matters relating to adults who shall be involved with paternity of children born out of wedlock; responsibility for or contributing to the delinquency, waywardness, or neglect of children under sixteen (16) years of age; desertion, abandonment, or failure to provide subsistence for any children dependent upon such adults for support; neglect to send any child to school as required by law; bastardy proceedings and custody to children in proceedings, whether or not supported by petitions for divorce or separate maintenance or for relief without commencement of divorce proceedings; and appeals of administrative decisions concerning setoff of income tax refunds for past due child support in accordance with §§ 44-30.1-5 and 40-6-21. The holding of real estate as tenants by the entirety shall not in and of itself preclude the family court from partitioning real estate so held for a period of six (6) months after the entry of final decree of divorce.</p> <p>(b) The family court shall be a court of record and shall have a</p>	

Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Jurisdiction	Divorce and Legal Separation – Service/Notification Requirements
	<p>seal which shall contain such words and devices as the court shall adopt.</p> <p>(c) The judges and clerk of the family court shall have power to administer oaths and affirmations.</p> <p>(d) The family court shall have exclusive initial jurisdiction of all appeals from any administrative agency or board affecting or concerning children under the age of eighteen (18) years and appeals of administrative decisions concerning setoff of income tax refunds, lottery set offs, insurance intercept, and lien enforcement provisions for past due child support, in accordance with §§ 44-30.1-5 and 40-6-21, and appeals of administrative agency orders of the department of human services to withhold income under chapter 16 of title 15.</p> <p>(e) The family court shall have jurisdiction over those civil matters relating to the enforcement of laws regulating child care providers and child placing agencies.</p> <p>(f) The family court shall have exclusive jurisdiction of matters relating to the revocation or nonrenewal of a license of an obligor due to noncompliance with a court order of support, in accordance with chapter 11.1 of title 15.</p> <p>(g) Notwithstanding any general or public law to the contrary, the family court shall have jurisdiction over all protective orders provided pursuant to the Rhode Island general laws, when either party is a juvenile.</p> <p>Once a complaint for divorce properly is filed in Family Court, the Family Court is not divested of subject-matter jurisdiction</p>	

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	<p>merely because the plaintiff has moved out of the state and changed his or her domicile. <i>Rogers v. Rogers</i>, 18 A.3d 491 (2011).</p>	
South Carolina	<p>S.C. Code Ann. § 20-3-50 Actions for divorce from the bonds of matrimony shall, except as otherwise provided, be only in the equity jurisdiction of the court of common pleas.</p>	<p>S.C. Code Ann. § 20-3-30 In order to institute an action for divorce from the bonds of matrimony the plaintiff must have resided in this State at least one year prior to the commencement of the action or, if the plaintiff is a nonresident, the defendant must have so resided in this State for this period; provided, that when both parties are residents of the State when the action is commenced, the plaintiff must have resided in this State only three months prior to commencement of the action. The terms ‘residents’ or ‘resided’ as used in this section as it applies to a plaintiff or defendant stationed in this State on active duty military service means a continuous presence in this State for the period required regardless of intent to permanently remain in South Carolina.</p>
South Dakota	<p>There does not appear to be any statutory provision specifically governing jurisdiction over non-resident defendants in divorce proceedings under Chapter 254 of the South Dakota Codified Laws titled “Divorce and Separate Maintenance.”</p> <p>S.D. Codified Laws § 25-4-30.1 An action for divorce or separate maintenance may be commenced in the county of residence of either party, subject to the right of the defendant to have the place of trial changed to the county where the defendant resides.</p>	<p>There do not appear to be any statutory provision specifically governing service and notice under Chapter 25-4 of the South Dakota Codified Laws titled “Divorce and Separate Maintenance.” A review of the applicable case law indicates that a plaintiff in a divorce proceeding must effect service pursuant to the general service rules set forth in the South Dakota Rules of Civil Procedure, which are detailed above.</p>

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	<p>S.D. Codified Laws § 25-4-30 The plaintiff in an action for divorce or separate maintenance must, at the time the action is commenced, be a resident of this state, or be stationed in this state while a member of the armed services. Subsequently, the plaintiff need not maintain that residence or military presence to be entitled to the entry of a decree or judgment of divorce or separate maintenance.</p>	
Tennessee	<p>Tenn. Code Ann. § 36-4-103 In all divorces sought because of irreconcilable differences between the parties, if the defendant is a nonresident, personal service may be effectuated by service upon the secretary of state pursuant to § 20-2-215.</p> <p>Tenn. Code Ann. § 36-4-105 A bill or petition for divorce may be filed in the proper name of the complainant, in the chancery or circuit court or other court having divorce jurisdiction, in the county where the parties reside at the time of their separation, or in which the defendant resides, if a resident of the state; but if the defendant is a nonresident of the state or a convict, then in the county where the applicant resides.</p>	<p>Tenn. Code Ann. § 20-2-15 (a) Service of process pursuant to § 20-2-214 [pertaining to jurisdiction of persons unavailable to personal service in state] shall be made by lodging, by the plaintiff or the plaintiff's attorney, the original summons and a copy certified by the clerk of the court in which the action is brought, with a fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00), with the secretary of state, who shall promptly send, postage prepaid, the certified copy by registered or certified return receipt mail to the defendant, along with a written notice that service was so made. (b) In case it appears, either before or after the lodging of process as provided in subsection (a), that the nonresident is dead, then either original or alias process may issue directed to the personal representative of the nonresident deceased and shall be sent as provided in this section to the probate court of the county and state of the residence of the deceased at the time of the deceased's death. No appearance need be made nor shall judgment be taken against the personal representative until the lapse of sixty (60) days from the date of</p>

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		<p>mailing the process to such probate court. The procedure for mailing such process and proof of service of process shall be as provided in this section and in § 20-2-216 for the service upon living persons.</p> <p>(c) The fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00) so paid by plaintiff, when fact of payment is endorsed on the original process by the secretary of state, shall be taxed as plaintiff's cost, to abide the judgment.</p> <p>(d) In case delivery of process so made by registered or certified mail is refused by the addressee of the process, such refusal to be evidenced by appropriate notation of such fact by the postal authorities, such refusal shall be deemed the equivalent of delivery and adequately constitutes service.</p>
Texas	<p>Tex. Fam. Code Ann. § 82.003</p> <p>(a) If the petitioner in a suit for dissolution of a marriage is a resident or a domiciliary of Texas at the time the suit for dissolution is filed, the court may exercise personal jurisdiction over the respondent or over the respondent 's personal representative although the respondent is not a resident of this state if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) this state is the last marital residence of the petitioner and the respondent and the suit is filed before the second anniversary of the date on which marital residence ended; or (2) there is any basis consistent with the constitutions of this state and the United States for the exercise of the personal jurisdiction. 	<p>Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 108</p> <p>Where the defendant is absent from Texas, or is a nonresident of Texas, the form of notice to such defendant of the institution of the suit shall be the same as prescribed for citation to a resident defendant; and such notice may be served by any disinterested person who is not less than eighteen years of age, in the same manner as provided in Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 106.</p>

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	(b) A court acquiring jurisdiction under this section also acquires jurisdiction over the respondent in a suit affecting the parent-child relationship.	
Utah	<p>Utah Code Ann. § 78B-13-201</p> <p>(1) Proceedings in divorce are commenced and conducted as provided by law for proceedings in civil causes, except as provided in this chapter.</p> <p>(2) The court may decree a dissolution of the marriage contract between the petitioner and respondent on the grounds specified in Subsection (3) in all cases where the petitioner or respondent has been an actual and bona fide resident of this state and of the county where the action is brought, or if members of the armed forces of the United States who are not legal residents of this state, where the petitioner has been stationed in this state under military orders, for three months next prior to the commencement of the action.</p>	There do not appear to be any specific service or notice rules under Chapter 3 of Title 30 of the Utah Code concerning “Divorce”—other than those set forth above in the general service rules.
Vermont	<p>15 V.S.A. § 591</p> <p>Superior courts shall hear and determine complaints for divorce and for affirming or annulling the civil marriage contract and may issue process of attachment, execution, and other proper process necessary for the dispatch and final determination of such causes. The judges of the superior court shall be triers of questions of fact as well as of law. Their determination of questions of fact shall be final, and exceptions may be taken and questions of law heard in the supreme court as in other causes.</p>	There do not appear to be any specific service or notice rules under Chapter 11 of Title 15 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated concerning “Annulment and Divorce”—other than those set forth above and in the general service rules. See Vt. R. Civ. P. 4(f)(B) (providing procedures for service by mail of in-state and out-of-state defendants against whom judgment for divorce or annulment of marriage is sought).

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	<p>15 V.S.A. § 592</p> <p>(a) A complaint for divorce or annulment of civil marriage may be brought if either party to the marriage has resided within the State for a period of six months or more, but a divorce shall not be decreed for any cause, unless the plaintiff or the defendant has resided in the State one year next preceding the date of final hearing. Temporary absence from the State because of illness, employment without the State, service as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, or other legitimate and bona fide cause shall not affect the six months' period or the one-year period specified in the preceding sentence, provided the person has otherwise retained residence in this State.</p> <p>(b) Notwithstanding provisions to the contrary, a complaint for divorce may be filed in the Family Division of Superior Court in the county in which the marriage certificate was filed by parties who are not residents of Vermont provided all of the following criteria are met:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The marriage was established in Vermont. (2) Neither party's state of legal residence recognizes the couple's Vermont marriage for purposes of divorce. (3) There are no minor children who were born or adopted during the marriage. (4) The parties file a stipulation together with a complaint that resolves all issues in the divorce action. The stipulation 	

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	<p>shall be signed by both parties and shall include the following terms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) An agreement that the terms and conditions of the stipulation may be incorporated into a final order of divorce. (B) The facts upon which the court may base a decree of divorce and that bring the matter before the court's jurisdiction. (C) An acknowledgment that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Each party understands that if he or she wishes to litigate any issue related to the divorce before a Vermont court, one of the parties must meet the residency requirement set forth in subsection (a) of this section. (ii) Neither party is the subject of an abuse prevention order in a proceeding between the parties. (iii) There are no minor children who were born or adopted during the marriage. (iv) Neither party's state of legal residence recognizes the couple's Vermont marriage for purposes of divorce. (v) Each party has entered into the stipulation freely and voluntarily. (vi) the parties have exchanged all financial information, including income, assets, and liabilities. (c) The court shall waive a final hearing on any divorce action filed pursuant to subsection (b) of this section unless the court determines upon review of the complaint and stipulation that 	

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	<p>the filing is incomplete or that a hearing is warranted for the purpose of clarifying a provision of the stipulation. Final uncontested hearings in a nonresident divorce action shall be conducted by telephone unless one or both of the parties choose to appear in person.</p> <p>15 V.S.A. § 593 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, complaints for divorce for any cause and for affirming or annulling the civil marriage contract shall be brought in the county in which the parties or one of them resides. Petitions directed to a Superior judge for temporary orders under the provisions of Vermont Rule of Civil Procedure 80(c) may be heard within or without the county where the cause is pending at a place convenient for the parties and the judge hearing the same. (b) A complaint for divorce or dissolution of a civil union shall be brought in the county in which the marriage certificate or the civil union certificate was filed if neither of the parties resides in Vermont.</p>	
Virginia	<p>Code of Virginia § 20-96 The circuit court shall have jurisdiction of suits for annulling or affirming marriage and for divorces, and claims for separate maintenance, and such suits shall be heard by the judge as equitable claims.</p> <p>Code of Virginia § 20-97</p>	<p>Code of Virginia § 20-99(3) (3) Process or notice in such proceedings shall be served in the Commonwealth by any of the methods prescribed in § 8.01-296 by any person authorized to serve process under § 8.01-293. Service may be made on a nonresident by any of the methods prescribed in § 8.01-296 by any person authorized to serve process under § 8.01-320.</p>

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	<p>No suit for annulling a marriage or for divorce shall be maintainable, unless one of the parties was at the time of the filing of the suit and had been for at least six months preceding the filing of the suit an actual bona fide resident and domiciliary of the Commonwealth, nor shall any suit for affirming a marriage be maintainable, unless one of the parties be domiciled in, and is and has been an actual bona fide resident of, the Commonwealth at the time of filing such suit.</p> <p>For the purposes of this section only:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If a member of the Armed Forces of the United States has been stationed or resided in the Commonwealth and has lived for a period of six months or more in the Commonwealth next preceding the filing of the suit, then such person shall be presumed to be domiciled in and to have been a bona fide resident of the Commonwealth during such period of time. 2. Being stationed or residing in the Commonwealth includes, but is not limited to, a member of the armed forces being stationed or residing upon a ship having its home port in the Commonwealth or at an air, naval, or military base located within the Commonwealth over which the United States enjoys exclusive federal jurisdiction. 3. Any member of the Armed Forces of the United States or any civilian employee of the United States, including any foreign service officer, who (i) at the time the suit is filed is, or immediately preceding such suit was, stationed in any 	<p>Code of Virginia §20-99.1:1</p> <p>A. A defendant in such suits may accept service of process by signing the proof of service before any officer authorized to administer oaths. This proof of service shall, when filed with the papers in the suit, have the same effect as if it had been served upon the defendant by a person authorized to serve process. In addition, service of process may be accepted or waived by any party, upon voluntary execution of a notarized writing specifying an intent to accept or waive any particular process, or by a defendant by filing an answer in the suit. Such notarized writing may be provided in the clerk's office of any circuit court and may be signed by such party to the proceedings before any clerk or deputy clerk of any circuit court, under oath, or may be drafted and filed by counsel or a pro se party in the proceeding, and shall, when filed with the papers in the suit, have the same effect as if the process specified had been personally served upon the defendant by a person authorized to serve process. For a suit for a no-fault divorce under subdivision A (9) of § 20-91, any such waiver may occur within a reasonable time prior to or after the suit is filed, provided that a copy of the complaint is attached to such waiver, or is otherwise provided to the defendant, and the final decree of divorce as proposed by the complainant is signed by the defendant. The court may enter any order or decree without further notice unless a defendant has filed an answer in the suit.</p>

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	<p>territory or foreign country and (ii) was domiciled in the Commonwealth for the six-month period immediately preceding his being stationed in such territory or country shall be deemed to have been domiciled in and to have been a bona fide resident of the Commonwealth during the six months preceding the filing of a suit for annulment or divorce.</p> <p>4. Upon separation of a married couple, either spouse may establish his own and separate domicile, though the separation may have been caused under such circumstances as would entitle such spouse to a divorce or annulment</p>	<p>B. When service is accepted pursuant to this section by a nonresident person out of the Commonwealth, such service shall have the same effect as an order of publication duly executed.</p> <p>C. Any process served outside the Commonwealth executed in such manner as provided for in this section is validated.</p> <p>Code of Virginia § 8.01-296(1)-(3) Subject to the provisions of § 8.01-286.1, in any action at law or in equity or any other civil proceeding in any court, process, for which no particular mode of service is prescribed, may be served upon natural persons as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By delivering a copy thereof in writing to the party in person; or 2. By substituted service in the following manner: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. If the party to be served is not found at his usual place of abode, by delivering a copy of such process and giving information of its purport to any person found there, who is a member of his family, other than a temporary sojourner or guest, and who is of the age of 16 years or older; or b. If such service cannot be effected under subdivision 2 a, then by posting a copy of such process at the front door or at such other door as appears to be the main entrance of such place of abode, provided that not less than 10 days before judgment by default may be entered, the party causing service or his attorney or agent mails to the

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		<p>party served a copy of such process and thereafter files in the office of the clerk of the court a certificate of such mailing. In any civil action brought in a general district court, the mailing of the application for a warrant in debt or affidavit for summons in unlawful detainer or other civil pleading or a copy of such pleading, whether yet issued by the court or not, which contains the date, time and place of the return, prior to or after filing such pleading in the general district court, shall satisfy the mailing requirements of this section. In any civil action brought in a circuit court, the mailing of a copy of the pleadings with a notice that the proceedings are pending in the court indicated and that upon the expiration of 10 days after the giving of the notice and the expiration of the statutory period within which to respond, without further notice, the entry of a judgment by default as prayed for in the pleadings may be requested, shall satisfy the mailing requirements of this section and any notice requirement of the Rules of Court. Any judgment by default entered after July 1, 1989, upon posted service in which proceedings a copy of the pleadings was mailed as provided for in this section prior to July 1, 1989, is validated.</p> <p>c. The person executing such service shall note the manner and the date of such service on the original and the copy of the process so delivered or posted under this subdivision and shall effect the return of process as provided in §§ 8.01-294 and 8.01-325.</p>

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		<p>3. If service cannot be effected under subdivisions 1 and 2, then by order of publication in appropriate cases under the provisions of §§ 8.01-316 through 8.01-320.</p>
Washington	<p>R.C.W. 26.09.030 Courts have jurisdiction over dissolution of marriage proceedings when filed by “a party who (1) is a resident of this state, or (2) is a member of the armed forces and is stationed in this state, or (3) is married or in a domestic partnership to a party who is a resident of this state or who is a member of the armed forces and is stationed in this state[.]”</p>	<p>R.C.W. 26.09.010(1) (1) Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, the practice in civil action shall govern all proceedings under this chapter, except that trial by jury is dispensed with.</p> <p>R.C.W. 4.28.080(16)-(17) Service made in the modes provided in this section is personal service. The summons shall be served by delivering a copy thereof, as follows: (16) In all other cases, to the defendant personally, or by leaving a copy of the summons at the house of his or her usual abode with some person of suitable age and discretion then resident therein. (17) In lieu of service under subsection (16) of this section, where the person cannot with reasonable diligence be served as described, the summons may be served as provided in this subsection, and shall be deemed complete on the tenth day after the required mailing: By leaving a copy at his or her usual mailing address with a person of suitable age and discretion who is a resident, proprietor, or agent thereof, and by thereafter mailing a copy by first-class mail, postage prepaid, to the person to be served at his or her usual mailing address. For the purposes of this subsection, "usual mailing address" does</p>

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		not include a United States postal service post office box or the person's place of employment.
West Virginia	<p>W. Va. Code § 48-5-102 Subject Matter Jurisdiction</p> <p>(a) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that it has the authority to establish, by general law, the jurisdiction of circuit courts and family courts over domestic relations matters.</p> <p>(b) The circuit courts and family courts of this state, by act of the Legislature, are vested with concurrent jurisdiction over the subject matter of divorce. Generally, a family court has the right and authority to adjudicate actions for divorce and the power to carry its judgment and order into execution. Circuit courts have limited jurisdiction in divorce actions, as provided in section two, article two-a, chapter fifty-one of this code and as otherwise specifically provided in this chapter. Jurisdiction of the subject matter of divorce embraces the power to determine every issue or controverted question in an action for divorce, according to the court's view of the law and the evidence.</p> <p>W. Va. Code § 48-5-103(a) Jurisdiction of parties</p> <p>(a) In an action for divorce, it is immaterial where the marriage was celebrated, where the parties were domiciled at the time the grounds for divorce arose or where the marital offense was committed. If one or both of the parties is domiciled in this state at the time the action is commenced, the circuit courts and family courts of this state have jurisdiction to grant a divorce for any grounds fixed by law in this state, without any</p>	<p>W. Va. Code § 48-5-103(b) service of process</p> <p>(b) A judgment order may be entered upon service of process in the manner specified in the rules of civil procedure for the service of process upon individuals.</p> <p>West Virginia Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 5(b)</p> <p>(b) Same: how made – Whenever under these rules service is required or permitted to be made upon a party represented by an attorney, the service shall be made upon the attorney unless service upon the party is ordered by the court. Service upon the attorney or upon a party shall be made by delivering a copy to the attorney or party; or by mailing it to the attorney or party at the attorney's or party's last-known address, or, if no address is known, by leaving it with the clerk of the court; or by facsimile transmission to the attorney or party pursuant to the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals Rules for Filing and Service by Facsimile Transmission (see Editor's Note). Delivery of a copy within this rule means: handing it to the attorney or to the party; or leaving it at the attorney's or party's office with a clerk or other person in charge thereof; or, if the office is closed or the person to be served has no office, leaving it at the person's dwelling house or usual place of abode with some member of the person's family above the age of 16 years. Service by mail is complete upon mailing.</p>

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	reference to the law of the place where the marriage occurred or where the marital offense was committed.	
Wisconsin	<p>Wis. Stat. § 767.301 No action to affirm marriage or for annulment under s. 767.001 (1) (a) or (b) may be brought unless at least one of the parties has been a bona fide resident of the county in which the action is brought for not less than 30 days next preceding the commencement of the action, or unless the marriage has been contracted within this state within one year prior to the commencement of the action. No action for divorce or legal separation under s. 767.001 (1) (c) or (d) may be brought unless at least one of the parties has been a bona fide resident of the county in which the action is brought for not less than 30 days next preceding the commencement of the action. No action for divorce under s. 767.001 (1) (c) may be brought unless at least one of the parties has been a bona fide resident of this state for not less than 6 months next preceding the commencement of the action.</p>	<p>Wis. Stat. § 767.201 Except as otherwise provided in the statutes, chs. 801 to 847 govern procedure and practice in an action affecting the family.</p> <p>Wis. Stat. § 767.215(3) (3) SERVICE. If only one party initiates the action, the other shall be served under ch. 801 and may serve a response or counterclaim within 20 days after the date of service, except that questions of jurisdiction may be raised at any time prior to judgment. Service shall be made upon the petitioner, and the original copy of the response shall be filed in court. If the parties together initiate the action with a joint petition, service of summons is not required.</p> <p>Wis. Stat. § 801.14(2) (2) Whenever under these statutes, service of pleadings and other papers is required or permitted to be made upon a party represented by an attorney, the service shall be made upon the attorney unless service upon the party in person is ordered by the court. Service upon the attorney or upon a party shall be made by delivering a copy or by mailing it to the last-known address, or, if no address is known, by leaving it with the clerk of the court. Delivery of a copy within this section means: handing it to the attorney or to the party; transmitting a copy of the paper by facsimile machine to his or her office; or</p>

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		<p>leaving it at his or her office with a clerk or other person in charge thereof; or, if there is no one in charge, leaving it in a conspicuous place therein; or, if the office is closed or the person to be served has no office, leaving it at his or her dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person of suitable age and discretion then residing therein. Except as otherwise provided in s. 801.18(6) (a) and (b), if an attorney, or a party if appropriate, has consented in writing to accept service by electronic mail, delivery of a copy within this section may also include transmitting a copy of the paper by electronic mail to his or her primary or other designated electronic mail address. Service by mail is complete upon mailing. Service by facsimile is complete upon transmission. Service by electronic mail is complete upon transmission, except if the sender receives notification or indication that the message was not delivered. The first sentence of this subsection shall not apply to service of a summons or of any process of court or of any paper to bring a party into contempt of court.</p>
Wyoming	<p>Wyo. Stat. § 20-2-104 A divorce may be decreed by the district court of the county in which either party resides on the complaint of the aggrieved party on the grounds of irreconcilable differences in the marital relationship.</p> <p>Wyo. Stat. § 20-2-107 (a) No divorce shall be granted unless one of the parties has resided in this state for sixty (60) days immediately preceding</p>	<p>Wyo. Stat. § 20-2-108 Actions to annul or affirm a marriage, for a divorce or to establish any order regarding the maintenance or custody of children shall be conducted in the same manner as civil actions, and the court may decree costs and enforce its decree as in other cases, except a divorce decree shall not be entered less than twenty (20) days from the date the complaint is filed.</p> <p>Wyoming Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 4(e)</p>

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	<p>the time of filing the complaint, or the marriage was solemnized in this state and one of the parties has resided in this state from the time of the marriage until the filing of the complaint.</p> <p>(b) A married person who at the time of filing a complaint for divorce resides in this state is a resident although his spouse may reside elsewhere.</p>	<p>(e) Serving an Individual Within the United States. — An individual other than a person under 14 years of age or an incompetent person may be served within the United States:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) by delivering a copy of the summons and of the complaint to the individual personally, (2) by leaving copies thereof at the individual’s dwelling house or usual place of abode with some person over the age of 14 years then residing therein, (3) at the defendant’s usual place of business with an employee of the defendant then in charge of such place of business, or (4) by delivering a copy of the summons and of the complaint to an agent authorized by appointment or by law to receive service of process