

Standard Parenting Time

In Calhoun County, the Family Division of Circuit Court has established a standard for ordered parenting time for non-custodial parents. In most cases, the court has found that exercised standard parenting time provides for an amount of contact between the non-custodial parent and the minor child that will facilitate and nurture the relationship between parent and child.

The standard parenting time provision provides that the non-custodial parent shall have the right to parenting time at all times and places to which the parties may mutually agree; provided, however, that in the event the parties are unable to agree, the following minimum rights shall prevail:

- alternate weekends from 6:00 p.m. on Friday until 6:00 p.m. on Sunday;
- Wednesdays, unless otherwise agreed by the parties, for up to four hours, to commence either at 4:00 p.m. or from after the non-custodial parent's work day ends until 8:00 p.m.; this mid-week visit shall occur only while school is in session or, if continued during school vacation periods, it shall be available to both parties; the mid-week parenting time shall be waived, however, if it interferes with a bona fide vacation plan by either party;
- alternate spring vacation periods;
- one-half of the summer vacation period, subject to the other parent's regularly scheduled alternate weekends from 6:00 p.m. on Friday until 6:00 p.m. on Sunday;
- one-half of the Christmas vacation period;
- alternate holidays, to include the following:
 - New Year's Day from 9:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.;
 - Easter from 9:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.;
 - Memorial Day from 9:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. unless that day is adjacent to that parent's regularly scheduled alternate weekend, in which case the holiday shall commence at the completion of the regularly scheduled weekend;
 - Fourth of July from 9:00 a.m. on July 4th until 9:00 a.m. on July 5th;
 - Labor Day from 9:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. unless that day is adjacent to that parent's regularly scheduled alternate weekend, in which case the holiday shall commence at the completion of the regularly scheduled weekend;
 - Thanksgiving from 9:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.;
 - Christmas Eve from 9:00 p.m. on December 23rd until 9:00 p.m. on December 24th; and
 - Christmas Day from 9:00 p.m. December 24th until 9:00 p.m. December 25th.

The aforementioned holidays should be arranged so that in one year, one parent will have the children on New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day and Christmas Eve, and the other parent shall have Easter, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas Day; that schedule shall be reversed the next year.

- Mother's Day from 9:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. shall be with the mother every year, and Father's Day from 9:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. shall be with the father every year.
- The parties shall share the child or children's birthday(s) by either alternating or splitting those days between them with the method of sharing to be left to the parties unless one of the parties asks the Court to establish the method.

Holidays shall take priority over other periods of custody/parenting time.

The spring, summer and Christmas vacation periods shall be determined based on the school district in which the child attends school, or for minor children not of school age, the district in which the minor child resides. The first day of the school vacation period shall be deemed to commence at 6:00 p.m. on the last day of school and to end at 6:00 p.m. on the last day prior to the child's return to school.