

Family Court

Overview/Motion Days

Family Court was created January 1, 1998 to hear family-related cases formerly heard in both Circuit and Probate Courts, thus establishing a “Unified Family Court.” The jurisdiction of Family Court is: Divorce and related matters; Adoption; Juvenile Delinquency and Child abuse and neglect. In Ogemaw County, personal protection cases are also taken care of by the Family Court division.

The Ogemaw County Family Court is presided over by the Honorable Shana Lambourn, who is also Probate Judge.

To schedule a motion on the Family court docket relating to divorce matters, personal protection orders and Friend of the Court matters that are not subject to be heard by the Referee (see below), please contact Michael LaFave at 989.345.0145. For the most part, Family Court motion days are every Monday, with the exception of holidays; however, you MUST call to schedule a date and time.

Matters to be heard by the Friend of the court Referee are as follows:

Prejudgment: Custody, child support, parenting time, exclusive use of marital home and allocation of household expenses, property distribution related to child support, health care coverage, transportation and exclusive use of vehicle, change of domicile and attorney fees.

Post Judgment: Custody, child support, parenting time, health care coverage, transportation, change of domicile and attorney fees.

Exclusions: Pre-trials, judgments of divorces, objections to referee findings, spousal support and grand parenting time.

Upon filing of a motion, the attorney or party (if pro-per) must contact the Friend of the Court office directly for a specific hearing date in front of the Domestic Relations Referee.