COMPLAINT FOR UNLAWFUL DETAINER

When should this form be used?

- Unlawful Detainer is used to remove a person or persons who occupy your real property, but do not hold title to that property.
- The property must be located within Gadsden County.
- The individual(s) occupying the property are not tenants.

<u>Example</u> – You have someone (roommate, boyfriend, girlfriend, family member, etc.) living in your home with you. There is no rental agreement. You do not want that person in your home any longer.

READ ALL OF THE INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE COMPLETING THE FORMS AND SUBMITTING THEM FOR FILING.

RETAIN COPIES OF ALL FORMS FILED FOR YOUR OWN RECORDS.

DOCUMENTS MUST BE LEGIBLE, TYPE WRITTEN OR LEGIBLY HANDWRITTEN IN BLACK INK.

FILING FEE: \$185.00

Summons issuance fee: \$10.00 per summons Summons prepared and issued by Clerk: \$17.00 per summons

Payable by cash/ cashier's check/ money order/ credit card (MasterCard, Visa, American Express, Discover)

<u>IN ADDITION to the above mentioned filing fee and summons issuance fee</u>, a fee is required to serve each defendant. The Sheriff of Gadsden County charges \$40 for each defendant served. The Sheriff's office will accept a cashier's check or money order, made payable to GCSO.

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This package is designed to help persons seeking to represent themselves in court without the assistance of an attorney. It is meant to serve as a guide only.

Unlawful Detainer is governed by Florida Statutes 82, section 82.04

We do not guarantee that either the instructions or the forms will achieve the result desired by the parties or ensure that any individual judge will follow the procedure exactly or accept each and every form drafted. Any person using these instructions and forms does so at his or her own risk.

Please note that Florida law prevents our staff from providing legal advice.

The 2014 Florida Statutes

Title VI

CIVIL PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE

Chapter 82

FORCIBLE ENTRY AND UNLAWFUL DETAINER

View Entire Chapter

CHAPTER 82

FORCIBLE ENTRY AND UNLAWFUL DETAINER

- 82.01 "Unlawful entry and forcible entry" defined.
- 82.02 "Unlawful entry and unlawful detention" defined.
- 82.03 Remedy for unlawful entry and forcible entry.
- 82.04 Remedy for unlawful detention.
- 82.05 Questions involved in this proceeding.
- 82.061 Process.
- 82.071 Trial; evidence as to damages.
- 82.081 Trial; form of verdict.
- 82.091 Judgment and execution.
- 82.101 Effect of judgment.
- 82.01 "Unlawful entry and forcible entry" defined.—No person shall enter into any lands or tenements except when entry is given by law, nor shall any person, when entry is given by law, enter with strong hand or with multitude of people, but only in a peaceable, easy and open manner.

History.—s. 1, ch. 1630, 1868; RS 1687; GS 2152; RGS 3456; CGL 5309; s. 33, ch. 67-254.

- 82.02 "Unlawful entry and unlawful detention" defined.—
- (1) No person who enters without consent in a peaceable, easy and open manner into any lands or tenements shall hold them afterwards against the consent of the party entitled to possession.

(2) This section shall not apply with regard to residential tenancies.

History.—s. 2, ch. 1630, 1868; RS 1688; GS 2153; RGS 3457; CGL 5310; s. 33, ch. 67-254; s. 13, ch. 73-330; s. 19, ch. 77-104.

82.03 Remedy for unlawful entry and forcible entry.—If any person enters or has entered into lands or tenements when entry is not given by law, or if any person enters or has entered into any lands or tenements with strong hand or with multitude of people, even when entry is given by law, the party turned out or deprived of possession by the unlawful or forcible entry, by whatever right or title the party held possession, or whatever estate the party held or claimed in the lands or tenements of which he or she was so dispossessed, is entitled to the summary procedure under s. 51.011 within 3 years thereafter.

History.—s. 3, ch. 1630, 1868; RS 1689; GS 2154; RGS 3458; CGL 5311; s. 33, ch. 67-254; s. 423, ch. 95-147.

- 82.04 Remedy for unlawful detention.—
- (1) If any person enters or has entered in a peaceable manner into any lands or tenements when the entry is lawful and after the expiration of the person's right continues to hold them against the consent of the party entitled to possession, the party so entitled to possession is entitled to the summary procedure under s. 51.011, at any time within 3 years after the possession has been withheld from the party against his or her consent.
- (2) This section shall not apply with regard to residential tenancies.

History.—s. 4, ch. 1630, 1868; RS 1690; GS 2155; RGS 3459; CGL 5312; s. 33, ch. 67-254; s. 13, ch. 73-330; s. 19, ch. 77-104; s. 424, ch. 95-147.

82.05 Questions involved in this proceeding.—No question of title, but only right of possession and damages, is involved in the action.

History.—s. 20, ch. 1630, 1868; RS 1691; GS 2156; RGS 3460; CGL 5313; s. 33, ch. 67-254.

82.061 Process.—If no person can be found at the usual place of residence of defendant, summons may be served by posting a copy in a conspicuous place on the property, described in the complaint and summons.

History.—ss. 9, 24, ch. 1630, 1868; RS 1694; GS 2159; RGS 3463; CGL 5316; s. 33, ch. 67-254.

Note.—Former s. 82.08.

82.071 Trial; evidence as to damages.—At trial evidence shall be admitted about the monthly rental value of the premises and if plaintiff recovers, the jury shall fix the plaintiff's damages at double the rental value of the premises from the time of the unlawful or wrongful holding, but the damages in no action of detainer shall be fixed at more than rental value of the premises unless the jury is satisfied that such detention is willful and knowingly wrongful.

History.—s. 14, ch. 1630, 1868; RS 1700; GS 2165; RGS 3469; CGL 5322; s. 33, ch. 67-254; s. 425, ch. 95-147. Note.—

Former s. 82.14.

82.081 Trial; form of verdict.—

(1) IN CASES OF FORCIBLE OR UNLAWFUL ENTRY.—In forcible or unlawful entry the form of verdict shall be substantially as follows:

We, the jury, find that defendant did (or did not), within 3 years next before the filing of the complaint, forcibly (or unlawfully) enter upon the real estate mentioned in the complaint and turn plaintiff out of possession; that defendant did (or did not) continue to hold possession at the date of the complaint; and we assess the damages of plaintiff at dollars.

(2) IN CASES OF UNLAWFUL DETAINER.—The form of verdict in unlawful detainer shall be substantially as follows:

We, the jury, find that the defendant did (or did not), at the time of filing the complaint, wrongfully hold possession of the real estate mentioned in the complaint against the consent of plaintiff that defendant has (or has not) so held possession thereof against the consent of plaintiff, within 3 years next before the filing of the complaint; and that plaintiff has (or has not) the right of possession in the real estate, and we assess the damage of plaintiff at dollars.

This subsection shall not apply with regard to residential tenancies.

History.—s. 13, ch. 1630, 1868; RS 1701; GS 2166; RGS 3470; CGL 5323; s. 33, ch. 67-254; s. 13, ch. 73-330; s. 19, ch. 77-104.

Note.—Former s. 82.15.

82.091 Judgment and execution.—If the verdict is in favor of plaintiff, the court shall enter judgment that plaintiff recover possession of the property described in the complaint with his or her damages and costs, and shall award a writ of possession to be executed without delay and

execution for plaintiff's damages and costs. If the verdict is for defendant, the court shall enter judgment against plaintiff dismissing the complaint and order that defendant recover costs.

History.—s. 15, ch. 1630, 1868; RS 1702; GS 2167; RGS 3471; CGL 5324; s. 33, ch. 67-254; s. 426, ch. 95-147. Note.—

Former s. 82.16.

82.101 Effect of judgment.—No judgment rendered either for plaintiff or defendant bars any action of trespass for injury to the property or ejectment between the same parties respecting the same property. No verdict is conclusive of the facts therein found in any action of trespass or ejectment.

History.—s. 20, ch. 1630, 1868; RS 1703; GS 2168; RGS 3472; CGL 5325; s. 33, ch. 67-254.

Note.—Former s. 82.17.

THIS PACKET CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING FORMS:

FORMS TO USE FOR STEP ONE:

Form #1 Complaint for Unlawful Detainer

- Fill in the parties names in the space provided (Plaintiff is the party filing the case and the Defendant is the party being removed.
- Read each line and fill in the appropriate response.
- Date and sign in the space provided and print or type your name, address, phone number and email (if available).
- Attach a chain of title to the complaint to prove you are the owner of the property.

Form #2 Summons

- Fill in names of the Plaintiff(s) and Defendant(s).
- Provide the name and address of the party being served (Defendant).
- Provide the name and address of the serving party (Plaintiff).
- Once completed, the Clerk will date and sign for issuance.

FORMS TO USE FOR STEP TWO:

Form #3 Non-Military Affidavit

- Fill in names of Plaintiff(s) and Defendant(s).
- Read each line and select and/or fill in the appropriate response.
- Date and sign in the presence of a Notary Public or Deputy Clerk.

For m #4 Motion for Clerk's Default

- Fill in names of Plaintiff(s) and Defendant(s).
- Sign in the space provided and print or type your name, address and number.
- Once completed the Clerk will date, sign and seal for issuance.

Form #5 Motion for Default Final Judgment

- Fill in names of Plaintiff(s) and Defendant(s).
- Sign in the space provided and print your name, address and phone number.

Form #6 Final Judgment for Unlawful Detainer

- Fill in the names of the Plaintiff(s) and Defendant(s).
- Read each line and fill in the appropriate responses.
- Once completed, the Judge will sign and date this form.

Form #7 Notice of Hearing

- Fill in the names of the Plaintiff(s) and Defendant(s).
- Read each line and fill in the appropriate response with the hearing information obtained from the judge's assistant.
- Provide the name and address of the party being served, select the type of service used and the date it was sent.

• Sign in the space provided and print or type your name, address and phone number.

Form #8 Writ of Possession

- Fill in the names of Plaintiff(s) and Defendant(s).
- Fill in the address of the property involved in the case.

FORM TO USE TO DISMISS THE CASE

Form #9 Notice of Voluntary Dismissal (if you do not wish to complete your suit)

• Complete the form and return it to the Clerk's office.

FILING CHECKLIST

Step One (File case with Clerk)

To file an Unlawful Detainer case, you may file the following forms along with the filing fee and issuance fee with the Clerk's office. **Make a copy of Form #1 and Form #2 for your records if desired**

(Form #1) Complaint for Unlawful Detainer with a chain of title attached.

Examples; warranty deed or title to the property.

One (1) original filed with the Clerk and one (1) copy for each Defendant to be

served.

(Form #2) Summons One (1) original and two (2) copies for <u>each</u> Defendant to be served.

Step Two (Obtain Judgment)

6 days after service on the Defendant(s):

IF DEFENDANT(S) **<u>DID NOT</u>** respond, you may file the following forms:

| (Form #3) | Non-Military Affidavit |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| (Form #4) | Motion for Clerk's Default |
| (Form #5) | Motion for Default Final Judgment |
| (Form #6) | Final Judgment of Unlawful Detainer |
| (Form #8) | Writ of Possession |

Submit along with the forms a cashier's check or money order for \$90.00 made payable to the Gadsden County Sheriff.

OR

IF DEFENDANT(S) **<u>DID</u>** respond, you may file the following forms:

(Form #7) Notice of Hearing

**It is your responsibility to contact the County Civil Division of the Clerk's Office, to set a hearing date. Once you have set your hearing date; complete this form and make copies. File the original, and submit a copy to the Defendant(s).

(Form #6) Final Judgment

**Bring the Final Judgment and (1) copy for each Plaintiff AND Defendant to to the hearing and (1) pre-addressed, stamped envelope for each party as well.

(Form #8) Writ of Possession Submit along with the form a cashier's check or money order for \$90 made payable to the Gadsden County Sheriff.

If the Judge grants your complaint, a Final Judgment will be signed.

The Writ of Possession (form #8) will then be issued and certified copies will be sent to the Gadsden County Sheriff along with the payment of \$90 previously provided.

Or you may choose to retrieve the \$90 payment previously provided and hand deliver the certified copies of the writ to the Gadsden County Sheriff's Office.

Additional Forms

(Form #9) Notice of Voluntary Dismissal

If you decide not to proceed with your case prior to a judgment being entered, you should file a "Notice of Voluntary Dismissal." Form # 9

| | Case No. |
|---|--|
| | |
| Plaintiff(s) | |
| Vs | |
| Defendant(s) COMPLAINT FOR | UNLAWFUL DETAINER |
| COMES NOW, the Plaintiff(s) | and sues |
| COMES NOW, the Plaintiff(s) Defendant(s) | and states as follows: |
| 1. This is an action to recover possession of re Florida Statutes, Chapter 82, located in Gads | |
| 2. The Defendant(s) is in possession of the following | llowing real property in the County: |
| (Describe property, i.e. property address or lest to which Plaintiff(s) claims title as shown by | |
| 3. Defendant(s) refuses to deliver possession of | of the property to Plaintiff(s). |
| 4. Plaintiff has demanded possession of the pr | remises. |
| Note: A statement of Plaintiff's ch | ain of title (copy of deed/title) must be |
| attached. WHEREFORE Plaintiff(s) demand | s judgment for possession of the property, for |
| costs and for such other relief as is just and pr | oper. |
| Date: | |
| | |
| Signature of Plaintiff(s) | |
| Print Name: Address: | |
| City, State, Zip: | |
| Telephone: | |
| E-mail address: | |

IN THE COUNTY COURT, SECOND JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR GADSDEN COUNTY

| | Case No: |
|--|----------|
| | |
| Plaintiff(s) | |
| VS | |
| Defendant(s) | |
| UNLAWFUL DETA (CLAIM FOR POSSESS | |
| TO EACH SHERIFF OF THE STATE: You a a copy of the COMPLAINT in this lawsuit on the complexity of the c | |
| TO DEFENDANT(S): | |
| Defendant Name | <u> </u> |
| Defendant Address | |
| City, State, Zip Code | |

Please Read Carefully

You are being sued by Plaintiff, owner, to require you to vacate the premises which you are unlawfully possessing, for the reasons given in the attached complaint.

You are entitled to a hearing to decide whether you can be required to vacate, but you must do all of the things listed below. You must do them within five (5) days (not including Saturday, Sunday, or any legal holiday) after the date these papers were given to you or to a person who lives with you or were posted at the premises.

THE THINGS YOU MUST DO ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(1) Write down the reasons(s) why you think you should not be forced to vacate. The

IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS ANY ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING, YOU ARE ENTITLED, AT NO COST TO YOU, TO THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN ASSISTANCE. PLEASE CONTACT ADA COORDINATOR; 301 S. MONROE STREET, ROOM 225, TALLAHASSEE, FL, 32301; AT (850) 606-4401, AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED COURT APPEARANCE, OR IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIVING THIS NOTIFICATION IF THE TIME BEFORE THE SCHEDULED APPEARANCE IS LESS THAN 7 DAYS; IF YOU ARE HEARING OR VOICE IMPAIRED, CALL 711.

IN THE COUNTY COURT IN AND FOR GADSDEN, FLORIDA

| | Case No. |
|--|--|
| Plaintiff(s) | |
| Vs | |
| Defendant(s) | |
| NON-MILITA | ARY AFFIDAVIT |
| State of Florida County of Gadsden | |
| On this day personally appeared before me, | the |
| undersigned authority who after being duly swe | (Plaintiff'sName) orn, says: |
| Defendant is known by Affiant not to be in the branch subject to the provisions of the Soldiers | |
| I understand that I am swearing or affirmin made in this affidavit and that the punishme includes fines and/or imprisonment. | g under oath to the truthfulness of the claims ent for knowingly making a false statement |
| Dated: | _ |
| Signature of Plaintiff | _ |
| Address | _ |
| City, State and Zip Code | _ |
| Phone number | |
| State of Florida | |
| County of Gadsden Sworn and subscribed before me thisd , wh | ay of, 20, by o is personally known to me or as identification and who took |
| produced | as identification and who took |
| an oath. | |
| Notary Public or Deputy Clerk | _ |

IN THE COUNTY COURT IN AND FOR GADSDEN, FLORIDA

| | Case No. |
|--|---|
| Plaintiff(s) | |
| Vs | |
| Defendant(s) | |
| MOTION FOR CLE | RK'S DEFAULT |
| Plaintiff moves for entry of a Default by the Clerk | and as grounds therefore states the following: |
| Service of Process has been effected on the Defend | lant(s) |
| The time to file a response has expired. | |
| The defendant(s) | have failed to serve any |
| paper on the undersigned or file any paper as require | red by the law. |
| Dated: | |
| | |
| Signature of Plaintiff | |
| Address | |
| City, State and Zip Code | |
| Phone number | |
| DEFAU | JLT |
| A default is hereby entered in this action against Motion for failure to serve or file papers as requ | t the defendant(s) named in the foregoing tired by law. |
| DATE: | - |
| NICHOLAS THOMAS, CLERK OF THE COURTS | |
| BY: | – Form #4 |

| | Case no. |
|---------|---|
| Plaint | tiff(s) |
| Vs | |
| Defen | ndant(s) |
| | MOTION FOR DEFAULT FINAL JUDGMENT- UNLAWFUL DETAINER |
| | ciff(s) asks the court to enter a Default Final Judgment against Defendant(s) for unlawful ner and says: |
| 1. | Plaintiff(s) filed a Complaint for Unlawful Detainer from Real Property against Defendant(s). |
| 2. | Defendant(s) has failed to timely file and answer and a default has been entered by the Clerk of this Court on the day of, 20 |
| | REFORE, Plaintiff(s) asks this Court to enter a Final Judgment for Unlawful Detainer st the Defendant(s). |
| Date: | |
| Print 1 | ture of Plaintiff Name: ess: State, Zip: |
| Talan | hone No: |

| Case No | |
|---|----------|
| Plaintiff(s) | |
| Vs | |
| Defendant(s) | |
| FINAL JUDGMENT FOR UNLAWFUL DETAINER | |
| This cause having come before the Court on Complaint for Unlawful Detainer and it app that the Defendant(s) has been duly served with process, it is hereby: | earing |
| ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Plaintiff(s) do have and recover from the Defer possession of the following premises located in Gadsden County, Florida, to wit: | ndant(s) |
| (Describe property, i.e. property address or legal description) | |
| The Clerk of Court shall issue the Writ of Possession for the aforesaid premises forthwith | h. |
| It is further ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Plaintiff(s) recover judgment again Defendant(s) costs in the amount of \$, for all of which let execution | |
| DONE AND ORDERED in Gadsden County, Florida on the day of | , |
| | |
| County Court Judge | |
| cc: Plaintiff Defendant | |

| | Case No |
|--|--|
| Plaintiff(s) | |
| Vs | |
| Defendant(s) | , |
| NOTICE OF | HEARING |
| TO: Defendant(s): | |
| There will be a hearing before Judge a.m./p.m., in Judge's Courthouse at 10 East Jefferson Street, Quincy, F | on{date}on{date}_s chambers, Room 109 at the Gadsden County Florida on the following issues: |
| Complaint for Unlawful Detainer | |
| hour(s)/ minutes have been res | served for this hearing. |
| If this matter is resolved, the moving party shall of | contact the judge's office to cancel this hearing. |
| I certify that a copy of this document was: m to: | ailedfaxed and mailedhand delivered |
| The person(s) listed below on the day of | , 20 |
| Defendant: Address: City, St Zip Dated: | _ |
| Signature of Plaintiff(s) | |
| Printed Name | |
| Address | |
| City, State, Zip | |
| Telephone number | |

IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS ANY ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING, YOU ARE ENTITLED, AT NO COST TO YOU, TO THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN ASSISTANCE. PLEASE CONTACT ADA COORDINATOR; 301 S. MONROE STREET, ROOM 225, TALLAHASSEE, FL, 32301; AT (850) 606-4401, AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED COURT APPEARANCE, OR IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIVING THIS NOTIFICATION IF THE TIME BEFORE THE SCHEDULED APPEARANCE IS LESS THAN 7 DAYS; IF YOU ARE HEARING OR VOICE IMPAIRED, CALL 711.

| | Case No. |
|--|---|
| Plaintiff(s) | |
| Vs | |
| Defendant(s) WRIT OF POS | SSESSION |
| THE STATE OF FLORIDA: TO ALL AND SINGULAR THE SHERIFFS O | F THE STATE: |
| YOU ARE COMMANDED to remove Defendant County, Florida: | t(s) from the following property in Gadsden |
| and to put Plaintiff(s) in full possession thereof after conspicuously posted on the premises. | or legal description) er Twenty Four (24) hours' notice |
| Witness my hand and seal of the Court on | day of, 20 |
| DATE: | |
| NICHOLAS THOMAS, CLERK OF THE COURTS, | |
| BY: | |
| Deputy Clerk | |

| | Case No. |
|---|---|
| Plaintiff(s) | |
| Vs | |
| Defendant(s) | |
| NOTICE | OF DISMISSAL |
| The plaintiff hereby requests the above styles 20 | d case be dismissed this day of, |
| Signature Plaintiff | |
| Certificate of Service | |
| I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing I | Notice of Dismissal has been furnished to |
| (Name of defendant) | |
| (Insert address) | |
| By United States Mail, hand de | elivery, this day of, 20 |
| Signature of Plaintiff | |