Top Reasons Family Law Judgments Are Rejected

1. Attachments/Information in forms FL-170 and FL-180 are missing/inaccurate:

All appropriate **attachments must be included** when submitting the forms packet for filing. For example: On the FL-180 Judgment form, number 4H is often checked, but the FL-192 attachment, which pertains to healthcare costs and child support orders, is missing.

In addition to failing to provide attachments, **information is also frequently missing on FL-180**, such as the Child/children's name and date of birth.

When a case is **uncontested**, the parties must complete and submit form FL-170 along with the judgment. If the Judgment of Dissolution is contested by way of court hearing, this form is NOT required.

2. When filing form FL-170 (Declaration for Default or Uncontested), the following forms are often missing:

FL-141 (Declaration regarding service of Disclosure)
VN-131 (Waiver of Final Disclosure)

If the case is a **True Default**, and no response has been filed within 30 days after service, the Petitioner must file form FL-141 to show that they have complied with the Preliminary Declaration of Disclosure (FC 2103), and the Petitioner must also file the **Final Declaration of Disclosure** (form FL-141) or must sign the **Waiver of Final Disclosure** (form VN-131).

3. Missing form FL-130 (Appearance, Stipulation, Waivers)

When a party who has not made an appearance on a case files an Appearance, Stipulation and Waiver form, a fee of $395 must be collected. (The filing of the form constitutes their first paper.)

Note: When a case is uncontested, a response has been filed by the respondent, and there is an agreement between both parties, this form **must** be filed with the court.

4. The mandatory legal language regarding child support is missing from the agreement:

When there is a marital settlement agreement attached to the judgment, and there are minor children, child support MUST be addressed. Pursuant to FC 4065(a), the agreement must include the legal language regarding child support.

5. Missing the Bifurcation Order signed by the Judge.

When parties are requesting termination of marital status only and reserving jurisdiction over all other issues for a later date, they must submit a Bifurcation Order signed by the Judge. (FL-170, page 2, #21)

6. The Respondent's signature on Default Case is not being notarized:

When the case is by way of Default, no response has been filed, and there is a Marital Settlement Agreement attached to the Judgment, BOTH parties must sign the agreement and the Respondent's signature **must be notarized - FC 2338.5(a).**