

JUDGE MARY PAT ZITTER
JUVENILE/PROBATE DIVISION of MERCER COUNTY COMMON PLEAS COURT
Magistrate Donna M. Post

RULE 14. COMPANIONSHIP GUIDELINES
LOCAL RULE 14: PARENTING TIME ALLOCATION

- A. The allocation of parenting time shall comply with this Rule unless otherwise ordered by the Court or by the mutual agreement of the parties.
- B. The non-residential parent shall have parenting time on the alternate weekends from Friday at 7:00 p.m. to Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m.
- C. The non-residential parent shall have weekly parenting time for a period of three (3) hours. If the parties are unable to agree upon the exact times, it shall be from **5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** (one evening per week). The beginning and ending times may be varied to accommodate the work schedules of the parties, the schedule of the children, and the appropriate bedtime for children during the school year. If the parties are unable to agree upon the date of the week for this time, **Tuesday** will be used unless otherwise ordered by the Court.
- D. The parent receiving the children shall be responsible for transportation unless otherwise ordered by the Court.
- E. Holiday visitation shall be as follows:

EVEN YEARS

MOTHER	FATHER
Martin Luther King Day- Friday evening to Monday evening	President's Day- Friday evening to Monday evening
Memorial Day- Friday evening to Monday evening	Easter- Thursday evening to Sunday evening
Labor Day- Friday evening to Monday evening	July 4 th – If the 4 th falls on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, the time shall commence at 6:00 p.m. on July 3 until 9:00 a.m. on July 5. If the 4 th falls on Sunday or Monday, the time shall commence on Friday night at 6:00 p.m. and conclude July 5 at 9:00 a.m. If the 4 th falls on Friday or Saturday, parenting time shall commence at 6:00 p.m. on July 3 rd and conclude Sunday at 6:00 p.m.
	Thanksgiving Day- Wednesday evening to Sunday evening
Christmas – December 22 or the Beginning of the Christmas school Holiday (whichever is earlier) at 6:00 p.m. to noon on December 25	Christmas-Noon on December 25 for the remainder of the Christmas holiday Until 6:00 p.m., being the evening before school resumes (whether the children are of school age or not)

During the ODD YEARS this shall be reversed.

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Christmas and other holidays may be modified by agreement of the parties to suit individual family schedules.

The child shall spend **Mother's Day** in the companionship of the mother commencing 7:00 p.m. Saturday before Mother's Day and concluding at 7:00 p.m. on Mother's Day.

The child shall spend **Father's Day** in the companionship of the father commencing 7:00 p.m. the Saturday before Father's Day and concluding at 7:00 p.m. on Father's Day.

- F. The **child's birthday** shall be celebrated in even years with the Mother and in odd years with the Father. In the event that the child will be with the parent not exercising parenting time, this time shall be from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. unless it is a weekend, in which event it shall be from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. All siblings shall be included during this birthday celebration parenting time.
- G. Each parent shall be entitled to four weeks of extended parenting time each summer to be exercised in blocks of time consisting of either 14 or 7 consecutive days. Absent the agreement of the parties, a 14 day period shall commence on Sunday at 7:00 p.m. upon the conclusion of the other parent's regularly scheduled weekend, and terminate on the second Sunday thereafter at 7:00 p.m. Absent the agreement of the parties, a 7 days period shall commence on Friday at 7:00 p.m. , at the beginning of the vacationing parent's regularly scheduled weekend, and terminate on the following Friday at 7:00 p.m.
- H. Each parent shall provide their address and phone numbers at all times to the other parent. Non-residential parents shall be entitled to exercise a reasonable telephone communication at his/her expense.
- I. The non-residential parent shall be responsible to contact the school and request to be advised of all parent/teacher meetings, school programs and schedules regarding the minor children. Copies of grade cards shall be submitted to the non-residential parent by the residential parent on the weekend following the receipt of the grade cards.
- J. Each parent shall provide formula and diapers to be used for infants during the time they spend with the infant in their respective homes.
- K. Adequate clothing shall be provided by the residential parent for parenting times and the same shall be returned at the end of said parenting time.
- L. Each parent shall notify the other parent immediately or as soon as possible as to any serious illness or serious injury to the child.
- M. The court may vary its companionship orders from the standard guidelines when it deems necessary and proper to do so.
- N. The Court may order visitation with a third party, such as a grandparent, when in the child's best interest.
- O. A copy of this rule shall be affixed to all parenting time orders adopting Rule 14.