

in the

NINTH
JUDICIAL
CIRCUIT
COURT
OF
FLORIDA

The Ninth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida in and for **Orange County** Office of the Court Administrator

#### FAMILY TIES

425 North Orange Avenue, Suite 510 Orlando, Florida 32801 (407) 836-0426

### What is Monitored Exchange?

The Monitored Exchange program provides a safe, hasslefree way for parents to exchange children for visitation. The exchange takes place at Family Ties through a third party so the parents have no contact with each other. Monitored exchange provides for ongoing positive interaction between parent and child while safeguarding the physical and emotional well-being of all family members.

## WHO NEEDS THE MONITORED EXCHANGE PROGRAM?

- Children who need access to both parents without witnessing physical and/or emotional abuse.
- Parents who can ensure visitation for their child(ren)
  while avoiding face-to-face contact with the other
  parent which might lead to physical or emotional abuse.
- **Attorneys** who need a means of promoting the safe exchange of children for visitation.
- The Court which needs to enforce statutes mandating children's continuing relationships with both parents, while ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all parties involved.

## HOW DOES MONITORED EXCHANGE WORK?

Every other weekend parents exchange the child(ren) for visitation on Saturday morning and then return the child(ren) on late Sunday afternoon. Parents must agree to cooperate with the program. The parent must:

- bring child(ren) on time on Saturday
- return child(ren) promptly on Sunday
- come alone to Family Ties to deliver and pick up the child(ren)

## ABOUT THE EXCHANGE SUPERVISORS:

The Monitored Exchange Supervisors are people who realize that this is a difficult situation for each person involved. All have been trained and are continually learning more about making each visit a safe and positive experience for the child(ren). The Supervisor will ensure that the parents have no contact with each other.

#### WHAT IS THE COST?

The cost is \$15.00 per weekend, to be split equally between the parents. The judge may waive the costs of monitored exchange in some cases.

### WHERE DOES THIS HAPPEN?

Monitored exchange takes place at Cherokee School near downtown Orlando. A map will be mailed to both parents.

# MONITORED EXCHANGE ACCOMPLISHES...

- eliminates contact between parents where there is a history of domestic violence or antagonistic behavior so that future violence can be avoided
- prevents children from being victimized by exposure to inappropriate behavior
- monitors parents who have had a history of substance abuse to ensure their sobriety before exercising visitation rights



#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: (407) 836-0426

### **Family Ties**

Orange County Courthouse 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite 510 Orlando, Florida 32801

### Sponsored by:

Ninth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida
Orange County Board of County Commissioners
Orange County School Board
Orange County Sheriff's Office

NOTE: In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, if you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in **Monitored Exchange**, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Court Administration at 425 North Orange Avenue, Suite 2130, Orlando, Florida 32801, Telephone: (407)836-2050 for more information and to ensure that reasonable accommodations are available. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8771.