

SMALL CLAIMS COUNTERCLAIM

HAMILTON SUPERIOR COURT 5
One Hamilton County Square, Suite 297
Noblesville, Indiana 46060-2231
Telephone: (317) 776-8260
website: www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov

CAUSE NO. 29D05-_____-SC-_____

Counterclaimant requests service by:
___ Sheriff of _____ County
___ Certified mail

Counterclaimant (**original Defendant**)

Address

City, State, Zip

Telephone number

E-mail address

vs.

CAUSE NO. 29D05-_____

Attorney (optional) _____

Address _____

Counterclaim Defendant (**original Plaintiff**)

Address

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

City, State, Zip

Telephone _____ Attorney No. _____

Telephone number

Email address

Email address

NOTICE OF COUNTERCLAIM

TO THE COUNTERCLAIM DEFENDANT (original Plaintiff):

You have been counterclaimed against by the original Defendant. A first hearing on this counterclaim and your original claim will be heard in the Hamilton Superior Court No. 5 on _____, the same date, time, and place as your original claim. The Counterclaimant may be given a default judgment against you if you fail to appear at that time.

The Counterclaimant's claim is for: ___ Account or Note (copy attached) ___ Damages ___ Wages
___ Set-off ___ Other (specify) _____

A brief statement of the nature of the Counterclaimant's claim against you is as follows: _____

The Counterclaimant demands judgment against the original Plaintiff for \$_____ plus interest from _____, at the rate of _____% and the court costs of this action.

Date

Signature of Counterclaimant (or attorney)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS CLAIM

1. The Plaintiff or the Defendant may represent themselves individually or be represented by an attorney. A Small Claims Litigant's Handbook is available at the offices of the Clerk or Court for each party's benefit. The Plaintiff and Defendant should bring to trial all documents in their possession or under their control concerning this claim. Time does not permit trials in every case set for first hearing. Therefore, trials will be held as needed in eviction cases and such other cases where both parties are prepared for trial and time allows.
2. A default judgment may be entered against the Defendant if he or she fails to appear for the first hearing or the trial, and if the Plaintiff fails to appear, the case will be dismissed (but may be refiled once more).
3. If the Defendant does not wish to dispute the Plaintiff's claim, the Defendant still may wish to appear to allow the Court to establish the method for paying the judgment.
4. Any request for a continuance of the first hearing or trial date by either party should be filed with the Court at least five days before the hearing date. Forms for requesting a continuance are available at the Court's office. The party requesting a continuance must contact the other party regarding the request.
5. The Defendant must file this counterclaim with the Clerk and in time for the Clerk to mail a copy of the counterclaim to the Plaintiff and to be received by the Plaintiff at least seven calendar days before the trial. Forms are available for this purpose.
6. If a settlement of this claim is made out of Court, it should be in writing and signed by the Plaintiff and Defendant. Settlement forms may be obtained from the Court. The settlement shall be filed with the Court and will be entered in the Small Claims Docket and shall have the same effect as a judgment of the Court.
7. The filing of a Small Claim waives the Plaintiff's right to trial by jury. The Defendant may, no later than 10 days following service of the Notice of Claim, make a demand for a trial by jury in writing, in accordance with Indiana Code 33-5-2-7. If a jury trial request has been granted, it may not be withdrawn without consent of both parties. Both parties should then obtain attorneys. The Defendant must pay a \$70 fee at the Clerk's office within 10 days after the jury request has been granted, otherwise, the Defendant gives up the right to a jury trial.

SHERIFF'S RETURN OF COUNTERCLAIM

I hereby certify that on the below date:

____ I served this Counterclaim by delivering a copy to the Counterclaim Defendant.

____ I served this Counterclaim by leaving a copy:

____ at the dwelling or usual place of abode of Counterclaim Defendant;

____ with a person of suitable age and discretion residing therein, namely _____

____ and by mailing a copy of the Notice of Claim to the Defendant, by first class mail, to the address listed on the Counterclaim (date copy mailed if Counterclaim of Claim because _____)

____ I was unable to serve this Counterclaim because _____

Date: _____

Sheriff of Hamilton County, Indiana

By: _____