

DIVORCEmate News & Views

For Users of DIVORCEmate Software

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Ontario Transition Now Complete – Forms+ R69 Ships! B.C. Forms+ Development Begins, New B.C. Sales Rep Named

For the past 14 years, our DIVORCEmate News & Views newsletter has been an important source of information for our 5,000+ software users. Our newsletter has something for everyone - productivity hints, new product and seminar announcements, Family Law and technology information, humour and more. Please ensure that it is circulated to all family law professional staff including secretaries, law clerks, justices, judges, mediators, professors, accountants and lawyers.

Ontario's "Forms+ Rule 69" Now Available

We are pleased to announce the immediate availability of our "Forms+ Rule 69" v.11.30.01 module, consisting of 37 day-to-day family law court forms used in the Ontario Superior Court of Justice.

These 37 new forms have been added to the latest release of Forms+, which originally offered 35 day-to-day forms for the Ontario Superior Court of Justice, Family Court and Ontario Court of Justice; 39 "Specialty" forms for the same courts and 5 additional forms for the Toronto Family Law Court (v.7.30.01 and v9.19.01).

This v.11.30.01 release also includes a number of new or improved features:

- One-step print icon** - removes shading, recalculates any mathematics and prints the complete form.
- "Merge Information Summary"** - you may now print your client's "Merge Information Summary".
- Formatting of dollars and cents** (MS Word only) - formats dollars and cents faster, warns when putting numbers and text in the same cell.
- Inserting or deleting rows**, or page breaks in a mathematical table has been disabled (MS Word only).
- Date formatting** - all date formats are based on your individual computer settings.
- Minor **optimization**, re-formatting, margin adjustments and other fixes.
- a new and comprehensive **Forms+ User's Guide**.

Forms+ Rule 69 Forms List

S69A	Petition for Divorce
S69D	Answer
S69K	Financial Statement (Long)
S69M	Financial Statement (Short)
S69N	Net Family Property Statement
S0	Merge Information Summary
S69F	Answer and Counterpetition
S69I	Reply to Answer to Counterpetition

S69Q	Requisition and Notice of Motion for Judgment
S69S	Respondent's Affidavit on Motion for Judgment
S69V	Certificate of Divorce
S69X	Notice of Confirmation Hearing
S69Z2	Variation Consent Form
S69	Blank Form
S16B	Affidavit of Service
S34A	Notice of Examination
S49B	Notice of Withdrawal of Offer
S51A	Request to Admit
S53A	Summons to Witness
S69B	Joint Petition for Divorce
S69E	Reply
S69H	Reply and Answer to Counterpetition
S69J	Notice of Intent to Defend
S69R	Petitioner's Affidavit on Motion for Judgment
S69T	Divorce Judgment (joint)
S69T	Divorce Judgment (general)
S69T	Divorce Judgment (default)
S69W	Notice to File Financial Statement
S69Z1	Variation Information Form
S70A.3	Statutory Declaration
S4D	Affidavit (general)
S23C	Notice of Withdrawal of Answer
S49A	Offer to Settle
S49C	Acceptance of Offer
S51B	Response to Request to Admit
S14A	Statement of Claim
S0	Motion Record and Index

Forms+ Rule 69 Pricing 1/1/2002

Upgrading from Lotus 123 forms or PERFECTmate	\$349
New user	\$699

- Additional licenses cost 15% of the purchase price, with a \$50/each, minimum cost per additional licensed computer.
- The same number of additional licenses must be held for both Family Court and Rule 69 Forms+ modules.
- Please place your Forms+ R69 order using our website www.divorcemate.com or the enclosed order form or call Sid Soil directly at (416) 718-3461 x420.

The Transition is Complete

The introduction of our Forms+ Rule 69 module is the **last step in the conversion** of Ontario's DIVORCEmate forms software away from "spread sheet" based software

(Lotus 123) and into the new world of "word-processing" based programs (MS Word or WordPerfect).

We will continue to **support our old Lotus 123 based versions until 6/30/02**, however there will be no further updating of forms. We recommend that you upgrade your old Lotus 123 DIVORCEmate software as soon as convenient.

Important Notice to Registered Users of Forms+ Family Court

All "registered" Forms+ Family Court users, *who did not order the Forms+ Rule 69 module*, may download a **FREE copy of Forms+ v.11.30.01** software update (*minus the Rule 69 forms*). Please visit our website at www.divorcemate.com. You will need your original CD key.

Or you may request the FREE v.11.30.01 Forms+ CD update by email or fax (see enclosed order form).

IMPORTANT: All updates to Forms+ or Tools+, are posted on our website; check your software version number against the update being offered and download as necessary. We recommend you use a high-speed Internet connection to download updates.

Tools+ Update Shipping 1Q 2002 Includes Numerous Improvements

We are busy updating our Tools+ software. We have **added a number of new features** including: a new "percentage of NDI" (net disposable income) column and a new 5th scenario in SUPPORTmate; the ability to split the payment of Canada Child Tax Benefits; easy reference numbers for printout rows and columns; easier override of "agreed amount of child support" plus much more...

Tools+ 2002 licensing will be consistent with the new Forms+ licensing terms and conditions. This means that each computer where Tools+ is installed will need an individual license and must be registered.

Tools+ users will be given the opportunity to purchase additional licenses when updating to Tools+ 2002.

DIVORCEmate Begins Development of B.C. Supreme Court Family Law Forms+

We are committed to broadening our software product offering to British Columbia family lawyers. We have begun the development of the **day-to-day family law forms under the B.C. Supreme Court Civil Rules**.

Initially, this new software will be offered in our new Forms+ for **MS Word only**. (*Please complete enclosed user survey regarding word-processing software used.*)

The BC release of Forms+ will introduce BC family law professionals to our simple "Forms+" user interface. The Forms+ user interface gives you the ability to create a "DIVORCEmate Merge Information File" which stores your

client's information (plaintiff / petitioner, defendant(s) / respondent(s), third parties, child(ren), lawyer(s), dates and other information).

This repetitive client file information is then merged into the different BC SC court forms, which you then complete, print and save using only your word-processor.

The merged client file and completed forms are then neatly organized and managed in individual client folders. An alphanumeric list of "available" and "completed" court forms is available for each client.

There is also a lawyer's information database which collects lawyers' name and address information, to be used over and over again.

With Forms+, most word-processing features are available, and there is virtually nothing new to learn... paragraph numbering or outlining; changing fonts, **bold**, *italics*; ~~strikeout~~; double line spacing; cut, copy, paste; unlimited undo; the forms are infinitely expandable. And you can easily e-mail them to clients or other lawyers!

The BC Forms+ documents look professional, neat and concise.... no more wasted space and paper.

We will officially introduce our new BC Forms+ software at the **National Family Law Conference** to be held in Kelowna BC in mid July 2002.

Our **initial release** of the BC Forms+ will include the following day-to-day BC Supreme Court family law forms:

- 2 Praecipe
- 3 Petition to the Court
- 7 Appearance
- 9 Cover Memorandum
- 10 Notice of Appointment of Solicitor
- 20 Appointment to Examine for Discovery
- 23 Notice to Admit
- 35 Notice of Trial
- 39 Notice to Produce
- 43 Order
- 55 Notice of Motion
- 56 Praecipe
- 56a Order
- 60 Affidavit
- 61 Notice of Appeal from Mater or Registrar
- 64 Offer to Settle
- 65 Notice of Withdrawal of Offer
- 67 Bill of Costs
- 89 Financial Statement
- 90 Consent
- 91 Notice to File a Financial Statement
- 91a Agreement as to Annual Income and Amount of Child Support
- 92 Demand for Discovery of Documents
- 93 List of Documents of (Party)
- 124 Endorsement of Petition
- 125 Outline
- 126 Notice of Hearing
- 127 Writ of Summons – Family Law
- 128 Statement of Claim – Family Law

129	Statement of Defence – Family Law
130	Counterclaim – Family Law
132	Affidavit
133	Child Support Fact Sheet
134	Restraining Order
135	Notice of Withdrawal – Family Law
136	Order

If you would like to suggest any additions or deletions to our list, or you want a Corel WordPerfect version of BC Forms+, please contact us at mharris@divorcemate.com.

New B.C. Sales Rep Announced

In keeping with our commitment to bring more and better software products to the BC family bar, we have contracted with **Steve Krieger of Legal Solutions Software** to handle our BC sales and marketing activities.



Steve is a lawyer with extensive litigation experience during 10 years of practice. He lives in Vancouver, British Columbia, and is returning to business after raising his two children. Steve has **expertise in office efficiency**, specifically in using technology to improve the quality of legal services while saving time and money.

In Steve's own words, "I am excited at the opportunity to utilize my legal and technical skills to assist family lawyers with DIVORCEmate Software. I believe that these software tools **increase productivity** and help to **improve service** to the client. I look forward to introducing the BC family law bar to DIVORCEmate Tools+ and new Forms+ software!"

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DIVORCEmate Attends Superior Court of Justice Family Law Conference for Judges

On December 7th 2001, I attended the *Ontario* Superior Court of Justice Family Law Conference. **Mme. Justice Benotto** chaired this unique and innovative conference aimed at family law veterans and new comers.



I demonstrated our Tools+ software, and a little program we developed specifically for judges, called the "Net Family Property Table".

At the click of an icon, this judge's NFP Table is instantly created in any MS Word judgment... it does all mathematics, has unlimited expansion and dollar formats and right aligns all numbers.

Other presentations included excellent papers by Professor **Carol Rogerson** "Spousal Support: Where are

we now?"; **Rollie Thompson** "Mobility"; **James McLeod** and **Alf Mamo** "Update on Recent Cases"; **Justice Czutrin** (chairperson) "Managing a Child Protection Trial"; **Justice Mackinnon** (chairperson) "Advanced Property"; **Justice Aston** (chairperson) "Case, Settlement and Trial Management Conferences.

I can only tell you that I heard, "GUIDELINE Tools", "SUPPORTmate", "**equalize standards of living**", and "**spousal support guidelines**" (?!!), mentioned often!

Income... Let Me Count The Ways...

The next time you are asked for, or you ask for "income" information, consider the following: how you arrive at the amount of "income" **depends on the specific purpose** for which you will use the number generated.

Possible definitions of Income:

1. Income (used in the Ontario SCJ Form 69K, Financial Statement for **budget purposes**) is the traditional salary, wages, bonuses, commissions, CCTB, interest, etc. and excludes Other Benefits.
2. Income (used in the SCJ, Family Court Form 13 Financial Statement for **budget purposes**) is the traditional salary, wages, bonuses and commissions, CCTB, interest, etc. and includes Other Benefits.
Yes, calculating a budget surplus or deficit is different depending on which financial statement you are using; one excludes "Other Benefits", one includes "Other Benefits"!
3. Income (used to **look up a Table** amount under the CSG) is estimated "future" income based on Line 150 on the T1 General Return, plus or minus the Schedule III Adjustments to Income, and includes s.17 Pattern of Income; s.18 Shareholders and Directors and s.19 Imputed Income considerations.
4. Income (used to **apportion special expenses** under the CSG) is the income definition in 3. above, but it applies the Schedule III s.3.(2) by subtracting the spousal support paid to the other spouse from the Payor's income.
5. Income (used to **start the Standards of Living Test** under the CSG) is the income definition in 3. above, however Schedule III s.3(1) and (2) are excluded by definition of their specific purposes.

Yes, there are at least 3 different definitions of Income under the current Child Support Guidelines legislation.

6. Income (used in the **T1 Return**) is total income, not to be confused with Net Income, or Taxable Income!

So the next time, you are asked about "income", make sure you clarify why the person is asking and for what purpose will they use the "income" number!

AND GET THIS.... these income numbers may **all be the same number, or they may all be different**, depending on individual circumstances!

Did You Know That ...

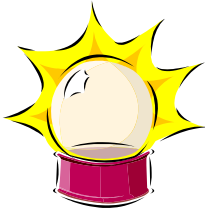
☑ DIVORCEmate is now offering **FREE 30-day full working trial versions** of our new Forms+ and Tools+ software. See the bottom of the enclosed order form.

☑ DIVORCEmate trained over 350 family law lawyers and support staff during our Fall Forms+ training sessions.

☑ On Jan 1, 2002, Ontario will adopt the amendments made to the Federal Child Support Guidelines a year ago last November (O. Reg. 391/97)?!

☑ **Legal Tech Toronto** came and went on November 13 and 14th 2001, **John Olah, Mark Tamminga**, did a fine job, however circumstances beyond their control kept the crowds down.

☑ In our November 1995 issue of *DIVORCEmate News & Views*, we predicted the following: "The Internet will allow you to: market and advertise your services to potential clients; communicate on a day-to-day basis with existing clients and other lawyers; gather case law and research information; try new software on-line before you buy; download the latest releases of your favourite software; immediately obtain all new DIVORCEmate software including updates and upgrades." **Wow, close or what!**



PENSIONmate and SOLmate Get Some Press

Capitan v. Capitan, 2001 CarswellOnt 1090, Feb 26, 2001, McCartney J.; PENSIONmate was reluctantly accepted in lieu of a proper actuarial pension valuation.

Using the SOL Test creatively: **Carol Hornick** used our SOLmate SOL test to make a point about disparity of standards of living in households when making her support argument. The judge agreed with her logic and reasoning. **South v. Tichelaar**, 2001 CarswellOnt 2447, Heeney J., June 21 2001.



Simon Says...

Q. I'm using your new Forms+ software. How do I delete blank rows in any Forms+ form? The "del" key does not remove blank rows!?

A. Forms+ was created using "tables". Put your cursor in the blank row or "block in" the rows you want to deleted, now look at the upper Tool Bar, and click "Table", "Delete", "Rows".

This tip is especially helpful when you want to move a page break or adjust a form because only a couple of lines have run on to the next page (14C Confirmation)!

Cautions: Do NOT delete rows in a Financial or Net Family Property form. Remember that a single row may be several lines in height; use the "Undo" key if it screws up!

Q. My client has a large bank account; how do I fit this

large number into a table column without it wrapping to the next line?

A. Simply grab the vertical column table line and move it; the column width will expand! You can do this in any Forms+ table to make more room in a column.

Great Humour For The Golfer... or Anyone Who Loves to Laugh



Golfer: "Think I'm going to drown myself in the lake."

Caddy: "Think you can keep your head down that long?"

Golfer: "You've got to be the worst caddy in the world."

Caddy: "I don't think so sir. That would be too much of a coincidence."

Golfer: "How do you like my game?"

Caddy: "Very good sir, but personally, I prefer golf."

Golfer: "That can't be my ball, it's too old."

Caddy: "It's been a long time since we teed off, sir."

Golfer: "Do you think I can get there with a 5 iron?"

Caddy: "Eventually."



Thanks Again for a Great Year

All of us at DIVORCEmate Software wish you, your family and friends, the very best in health and happiness for the upcoming year.

Thanks for believing and trusting us; we really do appreciate your business and we look forward to a fulfilling, healthy and peaceful future for all earth's people.

- Mark, Sid, Simon, Michael, Emile, Steve