

**State of Wyoming Retirement System's approved model form
of Qualified Domestic Relations Order ("QDRO")**

This is a Model Qualified Domestic Relations Order that has been preapproved by Great-West Life & Annuity Insurance Company (hereinafter referred to as "Empower Retirement") for use by the State of Wyoming Retirement System ("WRS") with respect solely to accounts recordkept by Empower Retirement under the defined contribution plan of the Participant. This Model should be used in conjunction with your attorney's advice and assistance. The format of the Qualified Domestic Relations Order will vary depending upon the rules of the court in your jurisdiction. Nothing contained in this **Sample** shall be construed as tax or legal advice.

It is recommended that a proposed version of this order be submitted to Empower Retirement with the body of the order filled in prior to entry of this order for purposes of your obtaining Empower Retirement's preapproval of the proposed order.

Proposed and entered orders should be remitted to the plan Empower Retirement as follows:

Empower Retirement
P.O. Box 173764
Denver, CO 80217-3764
Fax # (866) 745-5766

.....COURT, CITY OF, COUNTY OF

STATE OF

IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF:

.....

No.

Petitioner,)
and)
Respondent

QUALIFIED DOMESTIC RELATIONS ORDER

AND NOW, this _____ day of _____, 20____, based on the findings set forth below,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED:

1. **Parties:** The parties hereto were husband and wife, and a divorce action is in this Court at the above number. This Court has personal jurisdiction over the parties. The parties were married on _____ and divorced on _____.
2. **Participant Information:** The name, last known address, social security number and date of birth of the plan "Participant" are:
3. **Alternate Payee Information:** The name, last known address, social security number and date of birth of the "Alternate Payee" are:

The Alternate Payee is the Participant's former spouse. The Alternate Payee shall have the duty to notify the WRS plan administrator and/or Empower Retirement of any changes in mailing address subsequent to the entry of this Order.

4. **Plan Name.** The name of the Plan to which this Order applies is the **State of Wyoming Deferred Compensation Plan for Public Employees**, (hereafter referred to as "Plan") only with respect to Participant accounts recordkept by Empower Retirement.

Any changes in the WRS plan administrator, WRS, or name of the plan shall not affect Alternate Payee's rights as stipulated under this Order.

5. **Effect of this Order as a Qualified Domestic Relations Order:** This Order creates and recognizes the existence of an Alternate Payee's right to receive a portion of the Participant's benefits payable under an employer-sponsored defined contribution plan that is qualified under Section 457 of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code"). It is intended to constitute a Qualified Domestic Relations Order ("QDRO") under Section 414(p) of the Code.
6. **Pursuant to State Domestic Relations Law:** This Order is entered pursuant to the authority granted in the applicable domestic relations laws of _____.
7. **Provisions of Marital Property Rights:** This Order relates to the provision of marital property rights as a result of the Order of Divorce between the Participant and the Alternate Payee.
8. **Amount of Alternate Payee's Benefit:** This Order assigns to the Alternate Payee an amount equal to [choose either option 8A1 or 8A2 below]:

8A1 \$_____ of the Participant's Total Account Balance under the Plan as of the date this Order is processed.

OR

8A2 \$_____(dollars and cents) or ____% (percent)] of the Participant's Total Account Balance accumulated under the Plan (only with respect to Participant accounts recordkept by Empower Retirement) as of _____ (or the closest valuation date thereto). The Alternate Payee's benefit herein awarded shall be credited with any investment income (or losses) attributable thereon from the aforesaid valuation date (or the closest valuation date thereto), until the date of transfer of the Alternate Payee's share to the Alternate Payee.

(Note to drafting attorney: The Plan's current recordkeeper is not able to determine the value of the Participant's account balance and any investment earnings and/or losses prior to April 1, 1998. The parties will need to arrive at a dollar figure or percentage of benefits payable to the Alternate Payee as of a date that is no earlier than April 1, 1998. The Plan's current recordkeeper can determine the account value and calculate any earnings and/or losses from April 1, 1998 through the date assets are transferred or distributed to the Alternate Payee. Keep in mind that if you must adjust the valuation date forward and a percentage is awarded to the Alternate Payee in this section, you should consider whether to adjust the Alternate Payee's awarded percentage to account for any additional contributions (and any gains/losses accruing thereon) made by or for the Participant to the account after the originally intended valuation date.)

Such Total Account Balance shall be determined after the account is reduced by the outstanding balance of the Participant's account reduction loan(s), if any, as of the valuation date specified above, such that the Account Balance shall not include the outstanding balance of any account reduction loan(s) as of the valuation date. The obligation to repay any Participant Plan loan(s) from and after the date of this Order remains solely with the Participant.

Such Total Account Balance shall include all amounts maintained under all of the various accounts and/or sub-accounts established on behalf of the Participant, including rollover and transfer contributions. The Alternate Payee's portion of the benefits described above shall be allocated on a prorata basis first from all of the core accounts and/or core investment options maintained under the Plan on behalf of the Participant other than life insurance, if any, and next the Plan shall redeem amounts from a life insurance contract, if any, issued for the Participant under the Plan only to the extent necessary to obtain the amount that this order awards to the Alternate Payee.

Such benefits shall also be segregated and separately maintained in a nonforfeitable Account(s) established on behalf of the Alternate Payee. This Account(s) will initially be established proportionately in the same core investment options as the Participant account. Alternate Payee may make subsequent investment selections as and when permitted under the terms of the Plan. Alternate Payee's account shall experience gains and or losses according to the investment experience of the investment options in which Alternate Payee's share is invested.

9. **Commencement Date and Form of Payment to Alternate Payee:** If the Alternate Payee so elects on an appropriate form, the benefits shall be paid to the Alternate Payee as soon as administratively feasible following the date this Order is approved as a QDRO by the plan. Benefits will be payable to the Alternate Payee in any form or permissible option otherwise available to participants under the terms of the plan, except a joint and survivor annuity. The Alternate Payee will be responsible for paying any applicable withdrawal charges imposed under any investment account(s) with respect to his or her share under the plan.
10. **Alternate Payee's Rights and Privileges:** On and after the date that this Order is deemed to be a QDRO, but before the Alternate Payee receives a total distribution under the plan, the Alternate Payee shall be entitled to all of the rights and election privileges that are afforded to plan beneficiaries, including, but not limited to, the rules regarding the right to designate a beneficiary for death benefit purposes and the right to direct plan investments, only to the extent permitted under the provisions of the plan.
11. **Death of Alternate Payee:** In the event of the Alternate Payee's death prior to receiving the full amount of benefits assigned under this Order and under the benefit option chosen by the Alternate Payee, such Alternate Payee's beneficiary(ies), as designated on the appropriate form provided to the plan or, in the absence of a beneficiary designation, the remainder of any unpaid benefits under the terms of this Order shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the plan.
12. **Death of Participant:** Should the Participant predecease the Alternate Payee, such Participant's death shall in no way affect the Alternate Payee's right to the portion of the benefits as stipulated herein.
13. **Savings Clause:** This Order is not intended, and shall not be construed in such a manner as to require the plan:
 - a. to provide any type or form of benefits or any option not otherwise provided under the plan;
 - b. to provide increased benefits to the Alternate Payee;
 - c. to pay any benefits to the Alternate Payee which are required to be paid to another alternate payee under another order previously determined to be a QDRO; or
 - d. to make any payment or take any action which is inconsistent with any federal or state law, rule, regulation or applicable judicial decision.
14. **Certification of Necessary Information:** All payments made pursuant to this Order shall be conditioned on the certification by the Alternate Payee and the Participant to the Plan of such information as the Plan may reasonably require from such parties.
15. **Continued Qualified Status of Order:** It is the intention of the parties that this QDRO continue to qualify as a QDRO, as it may be amended from time to time, and that the Plan shall reserve the right to reconfirm the qualified status of the Order at the time benefits become payable hereunder.
16. **Tax Treatment of Distributions Made Under This Order:** For purposes Sections 402(a)(1) and 72 of the Code, or any successor Code section, any Alternate Payee who is the spouse or former spouse of the Participant shall be treated as the distributee of any distribution or payments made to the Alternate Payee under the terms of this Order, and as such, will be required to pay the appropriate federal income taxes on such distribution.

17. **Parties Responsibilities in Event of Error:** In the event that the plan inadvertently pays the Participant any benefits that are assigned to the Alternate Payee pursuant to the terms of this Order, the Participant shall immediately reimburse the Alternate Payee to the extent that the Participant has received such benefit payments by paying such amounts directly to the Alternate Payee within ten (10) days of receipt.

In the event that the plan inadvertently pays the Alternate Payee any benefits that are to remain the sole property of the Participant pursuant to the terms of this Order, if the Participant has experienced a distributable event under the terms of the plan, the Alternate Payee shall immediately reimburse the Participant to the extent that the Alternate Payee has received such benefit payments by paying such amounts directly to the Participant within ten (10) days of receipt. If the Participant has not experienced a distributable event under the terms of the plan, the Alternate Payee shall immediately return such overpayment to the plan within ten (10) days of receipt.

18. **Effect of Plan Termination:** In the event of a Plan termination, the Alternate Payee shall be entitled to receive his or her portion of the Participant's benefits as stipulated herein in accordance with the plan's termination provisions for participants and beneficiaries.

19. **Continued Jurisdiction:** The Court retains jurisdiction over this matter to amend this Order to establish or maintain its status as a qualified domestic relations order, as amended and the original intent of the parties as stipulated herein. The Court shall also retain jurisdiction to enter such further orders as are necessary to enforce the assignment of benefits to the Alternate Payee as set forth herein.

DISTRICT JUDGE

Approved as to Form:

{Alternate Payee or Attorney}

{System Member or Attorney}