

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING CIVIL AMENDED COMPLAINT

An amended complaint entirely replaces the original complaint. Therefore, an amended complaint must include those portions of the original complaint that are necessary, while adding the new material to be considered. Use the example below as a guide to complete the Amended Complaint form:

MIED ProSe 1 Amended Complaint for a Civil Case

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

### Plaintiff – Your Name

*(Write the full name of each plaintiff who is filing this complaint. If the names of all the plaintiffs cannot fit in the space above, please write "see attached" in the space and attach an additional page with the full list of names.)*

v.

**Defendants** are who you are suing. List their name(s) here.

*(Write the full name of each defendant who is being sued. If the names of all the defendants cannot fit in the space above, please write "see attached" in the space and attach an additional page with the full list of names.)*

Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

Jury Trial: ☐ Yes ☐ No

*(check one)*

If your case were to go to trial, check **YES** if you would like your case to be decided by a jury and **NO** if you would like it to be decided by a judge

### Amended Complaint for a Civil Case

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## **I. The Parties to This Complaint**

### **A. The Plaintiff(s)**

Provide the information below for each plaintiff named in the complaint. Attach additional pages if needed.

Provide your  
contact information  
here

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City and County \_\_\_\_\_  
State and Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

### **B. The Defendant(s)**

Provide the information below for each defendant named in the complaint, whether the defendant is an individual, a government agency, an organization, or a corporation. For an individual defendant, include the person's job or title (if known). Attach additional pages if needed.

Defendant No. 1

Provide the  
Defendant  
Names(s) – Include  
their contact  
information, if  
known.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Job or Title  
(if known) \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City and County \_\_\_\_\_  
State and Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address  
(if known) \_\_\_\_\_

Defendant No. 2

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Job or Title  
(if known) \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City and County \_\_\_\_\_  
State and Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address  
(if known) \_\_\_\_\_

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## Defendant No. 3

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Job or Title \_\_\_\_\_  
(if known) \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City and County \_\_\_\_\_  
State and Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(if known) \_\_\_\_\_

## Defendant No. 4

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Job or Title \_\_\_\_\_  
(if known) \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City and County \_\_\_\_\_  
State and Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(if known) \_\_\_\_\_

## II. Basis for Jurisdiction

Federal courts are courts of limited jurisdiction (limited power). Generally, only two types of cases can be heard in federal court: cases involving a federal question and cases involving diversity of citizenship of the parties. Under 28 U.S.C. § 1331, a case arising under the United States Constitution or federal laws or treaties is a federal question case. Under 28 U.S.C. § 1332, a case in which a citizen of one State sues a citizen of another State or nation and the amount at stake is more than \$75,000 is a diversity of citizenship case. In a diversity of citizenship case, no defendant may be a citizen of the same State as any plaintiff.

What is the basis for federal court jurisdiction? *(check all that apply)*

☐ Federal question

☐ Diversity of citizenship

Cases that involve a constitutional right,  
federal law, statute, or treaty

**Or**

Cases where the U.S. Government, its  
agency, or its employee, is a plaintiff or  
defendant

Used when the parties being sued live or  
do business in different states

In diversity cases, the dollar amount in  
dispute must be at least **\$75,000**

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## A. If the Basis for Jurisdiction Is a Federal Question

List the specific federal statutes, federal treaties, and/or provisions of the United States Constitution that are at issue in this case.

If you selected **Federal Question**, answer this

## B. If the Basis for Jurisdiction Is Diversity of Citizenship

### 1. The Plaintiff(s)

If you selected **Diversity of Citizenship**, answer (a) or (b)

- a. If the plaintiff is an individual  
The plaintiff, (name) \_\_\_\_\_,  
is a citizen of the State of (name) \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. If the plaintiff is a corporation  
The plaintiff, (name) \_\_\_\_\_,  
is incorporated under the laws of the State of (name) \_\_\_\_\_,  
and has its principal place of business in the  
State of (name) \_\_\_\_\_.

*(If more than one plaintiff is named in the complaint, attach an additional page providing the same information for each additional plaintiff.)*

### 2. The Defendant(s)

If you selected **Diversity of Citizenship**, also answer (a) or (b)

- a. If the defendant is an individual  
The defendant, (name) \_\_\_\_\_, is a citizen of the  
State of (name) \_\_\_\_\_. Or is a citizen of (foreign  
nation) \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. If the defendant is a corporation  
The defendant, (name) \_\_\_\_\_, is incorporated  
under the laws of the State of (name) \_\_\_\_\_, and  
has its principal place of business in the State of (name) \_\_\_\_\_.  
Or is incorporated under the laws of  
(foreign nation) \_\_\_\_\_, and has its principal place  
of business in (name) \_\_\_\_\_.

*(If more than one defendant is named in the complaint, attach an additional page providing the same information for each additional defendant.)*

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## **3. The Amount in Controversy**

The amount in controversy—the amount the plaintiff claims the defendant owes or the amount at stake—is more than \$75,000, not counting interest and costs of court, because (*explain*):

Explain what the dollar amount in dispute is and why it is in dispute

## **III. Statement of Claim**

Write a short and plain statement of the claim. Do not make legal arguments. State as briefly as possible the facts showing that each plaintiff is entitled to the damages or other relief sought. State how each defendant was involved and what each defendant did that caused the plaintiff harm or violated the plaintiff's rights, including the dates and places of that involvement or conduct. If more than one claim is asserted, number each claim and write a short and plain statement of each claim in a separate paragraph. Attach additional pages if needed.

Explain what happened and who did what

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## IV. Relief

State briefly and precisely what damages or other relief the plaintiff asks the court to order. Do not make legal arguments. Include any basis for claiming that the wrongs alleged are continuing at the present time. Include the amounts of any actual damages claimed for the acts alleged and the basis for these amounts. Include any punitive or exemplary damages claimed, the amounts, and the reasons you claim you are entitled to actual or punitive money damages.

Explain what you want the judge to do and why

## V. Certification and Closing

Under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11, by signing below, I certify to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief that this complaint: (1) is not being presented for an improper purpose, such as to harass, cause unnecessary delay, or needlessly increase the cost of litigation; (2) is supported by existing law or by a nonfrivolous argument for extending, modifying, or reversing existing law; (3) the factual contentions have evidentiary support or, if specifically so identified, will likely have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for further investigation or discovery; and (4) the complaint otherwise complies with the requirements of Rule 11.

### A. For Parties Without an Attorney

I agree to provide the Clerk's Office with any changes to my address where case-related papers may be served. I understand that my failure to keep a current address on file with the Clerk's Office may result in the dismissal of my case.

Date of signing: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Signature of Plaintiff \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Plaintiff \_\_\_\_\_

Make sure to  
**date, sign**  
and **print your**  
name in this  
section