

964

The State Of Alabama, Baldwin County

CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

ANNIE PEARL RUFFO, Complainant
VS
FRANCIS A. RUFFO, Respondent

This cause coming on to be heard was submitted upon Bill of Complaint, Decree Pro Confesso on service by registered mail and Testimony as noted by the Register, and upon consideration thereof, the Court is of the opinion that the Complainant is entitled to the relief prayed for in said bill.

It is therefore ordered, adjudged and decreed by the Court that the bonds of matrimony heretofore existing between the Complainant and Defendant be, and the same are hereby, dissolved, and that the said Annie Pearl Ruffo is forever divorced from the said

Francis A. Ruffo
for and on account of cruelty

It is further ordered and decreed that the Complainant may resume her maiden name.

It is further ordered, adjudged and decreed that neither party to this suit shall again marry except to each other until sixty days after the rendition of this decree, and that if appeal is taken within sixty days, neither party shall again marry except to each other during the pendency of said appeal.

It is further ordered that Annie Pearl Ruffo be, and she is hereby permitted to again contract marriage upon the payment of the cost of this suit.

It is further ordered that Francis A. Ruffo, the Defendant pay the cost herein to be taxed, for which execution may issue.

This 16th day of August, 1943.

[Signature]
Judge Circuit Court, in Equity.

I, Roberts S. Duck, Register of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of the original decree rendered by the Judge of the Circuit Court in the above stated cause, which said decree is on file and enrolled in my office.

Witness my hand and seal this the day of August, 1943.

Register of Circuit Court, in Equity.

No. .... Page .....

The State Of Alabama  
Baldwin County

In Circuit Court, In Equity

ANNIE PEARL RUFFO

vs. Complainant.

FRANCIS A. RUFFO

Respondent.

DIVORCE DECREE

In a certain return entered and docketed in the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, in Equity, in Case No. ... the following facts were shown: ...

ANNA PEARL RUFFO

vs.

FRANCES A. ROFFO

CIRCUIT COURT OF  
Baldwin County,  
IN EQUITY.

In this cause it being made to appear to the Register that on the 30th  
day of June 1943, a copy of the Bill of Complaint filed in this cause was  
sent to Francis A. Ruffo

Defendant, by registered mail, postage prepaid, marked "For delivery only to the person to whom  
addressed," and return receipt demanded addressed to the Register of this Court; and that on the  
5th day of July 1943, such receipt was duly  
received and filed in this cause:

And it further appearing to the Register that the said Defendant has failed to plead, answer  
or demur to the said Bill to the date hereof, it is now, therefore, on motion of Complainant, ordered,  
adjudged and decreed by the Register that the said Bill of Complaint be, and it hereby is in all  
things taken as confessed against the said

Francis A. Ruffo Defendant

This the 9th day of August 1943

*K. S. [Signature]* Register.

The State of Alabama, }  
Baldwin County

ANNIE PEARL RUFFO,

Complainant

vs.

FRANCIS A. RUFFO,

Defendant

CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN  
COUNTY, ALABAMA

In Equity.

The Complainant

requests the oral examination of the following named witnesses, on behalf of the

Complainant,

viz:

Anna Pearl Ruffo and Alma E. Neese,

said witnesses reside in the County of Baldwin

State of Alabama.

Miss Dorothy B. Nelson, who resides at  
Fairhope,

or, The Register of this Court is suggested as a suitable person  
to be appointed Commissioner to take the deposition of said witness on such oral examination.

*Dorothy B. Rainey*  
Solicitor for Complainant.

The State of Alabama, }  
Baldwin County }

CIRCUIT COURT

To Miss DOROTHY B. NELSON,

KNOW YE: That we, having full faith in your prudence and competency, have appointed you Commissioner, and by these presents do authorize you, at such time and place as you may appoint, to call before you and examine Annia Pearl Ruffo

and

Alma E. Deese,

as witnesses in behalf of Complainant in a cause pending in our Circuit Court of Baldwin County, of said State, wherein

Annie Pearl Ruffo, is

Complainant

and

Francis A. Ruffo,

Defendant,

on oath to be by you administered, upon oral examination to take and certify the deposition... of the witnesses. and return the same to our Court, with all convenient speed, under your hand.

Witness seventh day of August 1943.

R. Duval

REGISTER

COMMISSIONER'S FEE, \$ Paid.

WITNESS' FEES, \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ANNIE PEARL RUFFO,  
Complainant

VS

FRANCIS A. RUFFO,  
Defendant

E Q U I T Y  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Before me, the undersigned Notary Public, personally appeared this day Annie Pearl Ruffo, who being sworn, says that the Defendant is not at this time in any of the Armed forces of the United States, but is employed as a mechanic in a plant at McKeesport, Penn.

Annie Pearl Ruffo

Subscribed and sworn to this the 13th day of August,  
1943.

Elliott G. Rinsley  
Notary Public, Baldwin County, Alabama

TO THE HONORABLE FRANCIS W. HARE THE JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA; SITTING IN EQUITY:

Comes ANNA PEARL RUFFO and by this, her Bill of Complaint, presented against FRANCIS A. RUFFO, respectfully shows:

FIRST: That she is over the age of eighteen years and the defendant above named is over the age of twenty-one years, and both have been for more than one year prior to the filing of this bill bona fide residents of the County of Baldwin, though defendant is now sojourning and employed in the State of Pennsylvania. That they were lawfully married at Bay Minette, Alabama on September 24, 1941, but shortly after removed to McKeesport, Pennsylvania, where defendant had found employment.

SECOND: Subpoena further shows that after said marriage, the defendant displayed a quarrelsome and abusive attitude, complaining about her conduct and abusing her without cause. That his behavior became worse, and in the month of September, 1942, after he had abused and struck her, for fear of her life or of serious bodily injury, she left him and returned to live with her parents where she has resided since.

THIRD: That because of defendant's violent temper and treatment of her, she fears that should she continue to live with him her life and health would be in danger.

THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, complainant prays that the said FRANCIS A. RUFFO be made party defendant to this bill, and by notice given by publication be required to answer same within the time prescribed by law.

Complainant further shows that the defendant is now temporarily absent from the State so that personal service of notice cannot be made upon him, and prays that notice be given him by registered mail sent to his present address at 411 Ringgold Street, McKeesport, Pennsylvania.

Complainant further prays that an order of reference be made in structing the register of this court to ascertain and report a suitable sum to be allowed her out of the estate of the defendant as temporary alimony and as counsel fees for the prosecution of this case, also a sum to be allowed her as permanent alimony after rendition of decree of divorced, and that upon said report, an order be made requiring the payment of temporary alimony and counsel fees prior to any further action on the part of defendant.

Complainant further prays that upon hearing of this cause a decree be rendered forever divorcing her from said defendant, granting her the right to marry again should she so desire, the allowance of suitable sum for her continued support, the right to resume her maiden name, and such other, further and different relief as to equity may seem meet.

*Anna Pearl Ruffo*

Complainant.

*Elliott S. Rinkley*  
Solicitor for Complainant.

STATE OF ALABAMA, BALDWIN COUNTY.

Before me, the undersigned notary, personally appears this day, Anna Pearl Ruffo, who being sworn, says that Francis A. Ruffo is now absent from the State of Alabama, residing at 411 Ringgold Street, McKeesport, Pennsylvania, so that notice by registered mail is required in order to effect service of notice of this proceeding upon him.

*Anna Pearl Ruffo*

Signed and sworn to by me this 29 day of June, 1943.

*Elliott S. Rinkley*  
Notary Public, Baldwin County, Alabama.



ANNIE PEARL RUFFO,  
Complainant,

versus

FRANCIS A. RUFFO,  
Defendant.

EQUITY,

CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY,  
ALABAMA.

DEPOSITIONS OF ANNIE P. RUFFO AND ALMA E. DEESE, witnesses  
for Complainant.

ANNIE PEARL RUFFO.

I am the Complainant in this cause and am over the age of eighteen years. I was born and raised in Alabama and live in Fairhope. My husband is over the age of twenty-one years and is now working in war work in Pennsylvania where we went after our marriage in September, 1941. We were married in this State just before he started in this job. He was living here at the time.

After we were married I found out that my husband was hard to live with. He developed an ugly and quarrelsome disposition and though I did all I could to please him he kept getting worse and worse. At first he just threatened me but I felt that worse was coming and finally in September of last year, 1942, after he had struck and abused me, I left him for fear that later he would do worse and that my life was in danger. After the way he has treated me I am afraid to live with him any longer and have been apart from him now nearly a year and do not expect to go back. I do not know, but am inclined to think that he is having an affair with another woman and wants to get rid of me. In fact I know that there is another woman in the case. He will hurt me or perhaps kill me if I continue to live with him.

*Annie Pearl Ruffo . . . . .*

ALMA E. DEESE.

Annie Pearl Ruffo is my sister. I do not know of my own knowledge of any mistreatment she has received at her husband's hands but she has written us of how hard he was to get along with, and I felt that she could not continue to live with him. They went away right after they were married and lived in Pennsylvania where he had a job. Last September she came home and told us she had stood him as long as she could and was afraid of him and she has been back with us ever since. He is a good deal older than she and does not seem to understand her or care for her. When he was down here with us he seemed all right but is of the type that mistreats women and she is wise in leaving him.

*Alma E. Deese . . . . .*

RECORDED

ANNA PEARL RUFFO,  
Complainant.

vs

FRANCIS A. RUFFO,  
Defendant.

.....

NON-MILITARY AFFIDAVIT.

\* \* \*

*Filed Aug 16, 1942.*

*J. W. Lane*

*Judge*

**The State of Alabama**  
**BALDWIN COUNTY**  
**CIRCUIT COURT**

ANNIE PEARL RUFFO,

vs. Complainant—

FRANCIS A. RUFFO.

Defendant—

**COMMISSION TO TAKE DEPOSITION**

**COMMISSIONER:**

DOROTHY B. NELSON.

**WITNESSES:**

ANNIE PEARL RUFFO,

ALMA E. DEESE.

RECORDED

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CIRCUIT COURT OF  
Baldwin County, Alabama

IN EQUITY

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ANNIE PEARL RUFFO;

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Complainant..

vs.

FRANCIS A. RUFFO;

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Defendant..

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DEMAND FOR ORAL EXAMINATION

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Filed August 6th 1943.192

 Register.

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Moore Printing Co. :::: Bay Minette, Ala.

**RECORDED**

No. 964

**CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN  
COUNTY, ALA.**

In Equity.

ANNA PEARL RUFFO

vs.

FRANCIS A. RUFFO

**Decree Pro Confesso After  
Notice By Registered Mail.**

Filed in office this 9th day of

Aug, 1943  
[Signature] Register

Entered in O. B. \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

ALB 100-1000-1000

ANNA PEARL RUFFO

VS.

FRANCIS A. RUFFO

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN EQUITY  
CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY

This cause is submitted in behalf of Complainant upon the original Bill of Complaint,

~~Decree Pro Confesso and testimony of Anna Pearl Ruffo and~~

~~Anna E. Deese.~~

and in behalf of Defendant upon

*R. Deese* Register.

The State of Alabama, }  
BALDWIN COUNTY.

No. \_\_\_\_\_ CIRCUIT COURT IN EQUITY.

ANNIE PEARL RUFFO,

Complainant...

vs.

FRANCIS A. RUFFO,

Defendant...

Motion is hereby made for a Decree Pro Confesso against

Francis A. Ruffo, the

Defendant...

in the above stated cause, on the ground that more than thirty days have elapsed since service of summons upon said Defendant.....; and that said summons was duly served according to law/ and that said Defendant.....ha.S.... failed to demur, plead to or answer the Bill of Complaint in this cause to this date.

This fifth day of August 1943

*Elliot S. Rinsley*

Solicitor.

SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT

**THE STATE OF ALABAMA,**  
BALDWIN COUNTY

No. ~~966~~ 964

CIRCUIT COURT BALDWIN COUNTY

June.

TERM, 194 3

TO ANY SHERIFF OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA:

You are hereby commanded to summon Francis A Ruffo.

to appear and plead, answer or demur, within thirty days from the service hereof, to the Complaint filed in the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, State of Alabama, at Bay Minette, against

Francis A Ruffo.


, Defendant

by Anna Pearl Ruffo.

Plaintiff

Witness my hand this 30th day of June.

194 3



Clerk.



**THE STATE OF ALABAMA**  
BALDWIN COUNTY  
**CIRCUIT COURT**

Anna Pearl Ruffo.

Plaintiffs

vs.

Francis A Ruffo.

Defendants

**SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT**

Filed June 30th 194 3

*R. S. Dech*

Clerk

Elliott. G Rickarby.

Plaintiff's Attorney

Defendant's Attorney

Defendant lives at

RECEIVED IN OFFICE

194

Sheriff

I have executed this summons

this 194

by leaving a copy with

Sheriff

Deputy Sheriff

**RECORDED**

No. \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

**STATE OF ALABAMA,  
Baldwin County.**

**CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY.**

**ANNIE PEARL RUFFO,**

**Complainant.**

**Vs.**

**FRANCIS A. RUFFO,  
Defendant.**

**MOTION FOR DECREE PRO  
CONFESSO ON PERSONAL SERVICE**

Filed **August 6th** 19**13.**

*R. J. Ruffo*

Register.

Recorded in \_\_\_\_\_ Record,

Vol. \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Register.

Baldwin Times Print, Bay Minette.

No.

964

RECORDED

The State of Alabama,  
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN EQUITY

CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY

ANNA PEARL RUFFO

VS.

FRANCIS A. RUFFO

NOTE OF TESTIMONY

Filed in Open Court this

day of

9<sup>th</sup>  
1947

*R. Mulick*  
Register.

C E R T I F I C A T E .

I, Dorothy Billie Nelson, the commissioner named in the attached commission in the cause of Annie Pearl Ruffo, Complainant vs Francis A. Ruffo, Defendant, pending in the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, in Equity, hereby certify that I caused Annie Pearl Ruffo and Alma E. Deese, Witnesses for Complainant to come before me this day in the Town of Fairhope, where, after being duly sworn to tell the truth, upon examination by the solicitor for Complainant they testified as is herebefore written; that their testimony, after being reduced to writing was read over and signed by them in my presence.

I further certify that I am not of counsel or of kin to either party to this cause or in anywise interested in the result thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereto set my hand and seal as  
— — — — — commissioner on this the seventh day of August, 1943.

*Dorothy Billie Nelson*  
Commissioner.

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P. 111

Post Office Department  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$100



Return to R. S. Duck  
(NAME OF SENDER)

Street and Number  
or Post Office Box

REGISTERED ARTICLE

No. 2068 Post Office Bay Minette

INSURED PARCEL

No. \_\_\_\_\_ State Ala

RECEIPT FOR REGISTERED ARTICLE No. 2068

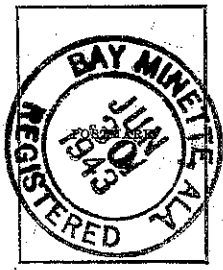
15 fee paid. 1 class postage paid. 6-30, 1943  
(Date)

Declared value, \$ non 74 Surcharge paid, \$ \_\_\_\_\_

From R. S. Duck  
A. M. (Sender)

Addressed to Francis A. Ruffo  
(Post office and State)

411 Ringwood St. McRusport, Pa.  
(Street and number) (Post office and State)



Accepting employee will place initials in space below, indicating restricted delivery  
Return receipt fee \_\_\_\_\_ in person  Special delivery fee \_\_\_\_\_  
Delivery restricted to addressee \_\_\_\_\_ or order \_\_\_\_\_  
Fee paid 10 Postmaster, per W.R.

16-12686

Form 3841  
Rev. 1-23-54

# RETURN RECEIPT

Received from the Postmaster the Registered or Insured Article, the original number of which appears on the face of this Card.

1. Francis M. Ruffo  
Signature of addressee

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of addressee's neighbor, friend, relative, etc., name on line 1.

Date of delivery \_\_\_\_\_, 194\_\_

Handwritten signature: *Francis M. Ruffo*