### The State of Alabama, Baldwin County



### CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

, Complainant
vs.
JAWES C. COPELAND Respondent
This cause coming on to be heard was submitted upon Bill of Complaint, Decree Proxidation
ANSWER AND WAIVER and Testimony as noted by the Register, and upon con-
sideration 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
BETTY JEAN COPELAND is forever divorced from the
saidfor and on account of
CRUELTY
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED ADJUDGED AND DECREED That the Complainant have the care
custody and control of the minor children, Winnie Ellen Copeland and James C.
Copeland Jr., with the right of the Respondent to visit them at reasonable
times.
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED ADJUDGED AND DECREED That the Respondent James C. Cope-
land pay to the Complainant, Betty Jean Copeland, the sum of TWENTY DOLLARS (\$20.00) Per week for the support of the said minor children.  It is futher 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 futher ordered that the Complainant and Respondent be, and they are hereby permitted to
again contract marriage upon payment of the cost of this suit.
It is futher ordered thatJames C. Copeland
the Respondentpay the cost herein to be taxed, for which executed may issue.
7 2 On.
This 13 day of Juliany 138
I Auber M Itele
Judge Circuit Court, In Equity.
I,, 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 theday
of, 19
Register of Circuit Court, In Equity.

No	 _ Page	e	

## THE STATE OF ALABAMA BALDWIN COUNTY

In Circuit Court, In Equity

B ETTY JEAN COPELAND

Complainant

vs.

JAMES C. COPELAND

Respondent

### DIVORCE DECREE

JAN 23 1958 MEE I. BECK, BASISTAN

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BETTY JEAN COPELAND

COMPLAINANT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

VS.

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

JAMES C. COPELAND

RESPONDENT

IN EQUITY

TO THE HONORABLE HUBERT M. HALL, JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA, IN EQUITY:

Your Complainant, Betty Jean Copeland, respectfully shows unto your Honor and this Honorable Court as follows:

1.

That your Complainant is a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama, and over twenty-one years of age; That the Respondent is a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama, and is over twenty-one years of age.

2.

That the Complainant and the Respondent married at Orange, Texas on the 20th day of August, 1956, and lived together as husband and wife until on to-wit: July 17th, 1957.

3.

That on to-wit, July 17th, 1957, and on various occasions prior thereto, the Respondent cursed, threatened and abused your Complainant and threatened to do actual violence to her person, which would recessarily endanger her life and health; that the conduct of the Respondent was such as to give your Complainant every reasonable apprehension to believe and she did actually believe that if the continued to live with the Respondent he would do actual violence to her person, which would necessarily endanger her life and health.

4.

That there were born as fruits of this marriage two minor children, Winnie Ellen Copeland and James C. Copeland, Jr., who are now
living with the Complainant in this cause; that the Complainant is
a fit and proper person to have the care, custody, and control of
the said minor children; That the Respondent is an able bodied man
and is well able to support the said minor children.

#### PRAYER FOR PROCESS AND RELIEF

WHEREFORE, THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, Your Complainant prays that your Honor will by proper process make the said James C. Copeland, party Respondent to this Bill of Complaint requiring him to blead, answer or demur to the same within the time and under the penalties prescribed by law and the practice of this Honorable Court

Your Complains t further prays that upon a final hearing hereof, your Honor will enter a decree forever berring the bonds of matrimony now existing between the Complainant and the Respondent; that the Complainant be awarded the care, custody and control of the heretofore mentioned minor children; That the Respondent be required to pay a suitable amount as support for the minor children; and that your Complainant be allowed the right to remarry should she so desire

Your Complainant prays for such other, further, different or general relief as she may be in equity and good conscience entitled to receive.

Omplainant apoland

John V. Duck Solicitor for Complainant

# BETTY JEAN COPELAND COMPLAINANT

IS.

JAMES C. COPELAND

RES PONDENT

BILL OF COMPLAINT

FILED JAN 28 1958

ALKE J. BECK, Register

JOHN V. DUCK
ATTORNEY AT LAW
FAIRHOPE, ALA.
August 2, 1960

Mrs. Alice J. Duck Post Office Box 239 Bay Minette, Ala.

Dear Miss Alice,

Enclosed you will find a petition to modify custody in the above styled. You will note that you are to serve the copy on Complainant, Betty Jean Copeland Bramlett. Her address is 8141 Shore Drive, Lot 576, Norfolk, 3, Va.

HALVI

Sincerely

John V. Duck

JVD:ems

Sent Cert-mail 8-11-10

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DETTY JEAN COPELAND BRAMLETT

Complainant

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA
IN EQUITY

Respondent

Respondent

PETITION TO MODIFY CUSTODY

TO THE HONORABLE HUBERT M. HALL, JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA, IN EQUITY SITTING:

Comes now the Respondent, James C. Copeland, in the above styled cause, respectifully shows unto your Honor in this Honorable Court as follows:

ONE: That your Respondent is a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama, and over the age of twenty-one years; that the complainant is a non-resident of the State of Alabama, and whose address is 8141 Shore Drive, Lot 576, Norfolk 3, Virginia, and who is over the age of twenty-one years.

TWO: That your Respondent and the Complainant were permenantly divorded from the bonds of matrimony by decree granted by the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, on the 23rd day of January, 1958; and that under the said divorce decree the Complainant was awarded the permenant care, custody and control of the two minor children, Winnie Ellen Copeland, and James C. Copeland Jr.

THREE: That subsequent to the time of issuing of the said final decree of divorce in this cause, the complainant Betty Jean Copeland has married and that her married name is now Betty Jean Copeland Bramlett; and that subsequent to the time of the final decree of divorce being granted, this Honorable Court, the Complainant has removed the said children from the State of Alabama, but that the respondent now has posession of the said children.

FOUR: That the Complainant, Betty Jean Copeland Bramlett, has become addicted to the habitual use of alcohol, and is not a fit and proper person to have the care, custody and control of the here to fore mentioned minor children; in that she leaves the said minor children for long periods of time unattended, she beats them unmercifully, that they are not properly fed, clothed, nor do they have proper medical attention.

FIVE: Your Respondent further alleges that he verily believes that the Complainant, Betty Jean Copeland Bramlett, also uses narcotics and that the said children are in constant fear when in the posession of the Complainant.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the premises considered, your Respondent prays that your Honor will by proper process make the said Betty Jean Copeland Bramlett a proper party to this cause of action, requiring her to appear and plead, answer or demur to the same within the time and under the penalties perscribed by law and the practice of this Honorable Court.

Your Petitioner further prays that upon a final hearing hereof, your Honor will award the permenant care, custody, and control of the said minor children Winnie Ellen Copeland, and James C. Copeland Jr., to the respondent and not require your respondent to pay any further sum to the Complainant under the final decree of divorce.

Your Respondent further prays that your Honor will enter and order requiring the said heretofore mentioned minor children to remain within the jurisdiction of this court, until a final hearing hereof.

Your Respondent prays for such other further or different relief as in the premises he may be entitled to receive.

Respectfully submitted,

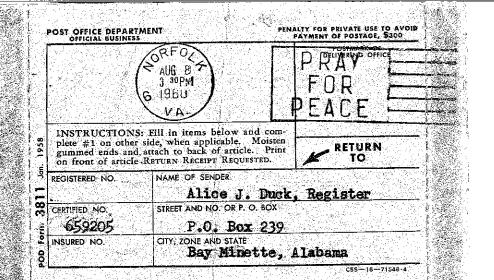
John V. Duck Solvicitor for Respondent

ALICE J. DUCK, Registor

The State of Alabama,	Circuit Court, Baldwin County
Baldwin County. No	
Baldwin County.	TERM, 19
TO ANY SHERIFF OF THE STATE OF ALABA	MA:
	1966年 -
You Are Hereby Commanded to SummonBe	tty Jean Copeland Bramlett
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to appear and plead, answer or demur, within thirty d	ays from the service hereof, to the complaint filed in  a, at Bay Minette, against_Beity_Jean_Copelar  Bramlett
	Defendant
by James C. Copeland	
	Plaintiff
Witness my hand thisday of	aug 1960
	alice I bluck, Clerk

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BETTY	JEAN COPELAND BRAMLE	T, ) IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
	Complainant	) BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA
VS		) IN EQUITY
JAMES	C. COPELAND, Respondent	) ) ) )
		PETTTON

TO THE HONORABLE HUBERT M. HALL, JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA, IN EQUITY SITTING:

ONE: Comes now the Respondent, James C. Copeland, in the above styled cause, respectfully shows unto your Honor, and this Honorable court as follows:

ONE: That your Respondent is a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama, and over the age of twenty-one years; that the Complainant is a non-resident of the State of Alabama, and whose address is 8141 Shore Drive, Lot 576, Norfolk 3, Virginia, and whi is over the age of twenty-one years.

TWO: That your Respondent and the Complainant were permenantly divorced from the bonds of matrimony by decree granted by the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, on the 23rd day of January, 1958; that under the said divorce decree, the complainant was awarded the permenant care, custody and control of the two minor children; Winnie Ellen Copeland, and JAmes C. Copeland, JR.

THREE: That subsequent to the time of issuing of thesaid final decree of divorce in this cause, the complainant, Betty Jean Copeland has married and that her married name is now Betty Jean Copeland Bramlett; and that subsequent to the time of the final decree of divorce being granted, this Honorable Court, the complainant has removed the said children from the State of Ala=bama, but that the respondent now has possession of the said chiledren.

FOur; That subsequent to the filing of this petition, your petitioner filed in this court a petition to modify custody of the said minor children, Winnie Ellen Copeland and James C. Copeland, Jr., and that your respondent and the complainant entered into an agreement on the 1st day of December, 1960 concerning the

custody of said children.

FIVE: That in and by the terms of said agreement, the respondent was to have custody of the children during the school months of each year and the complainant was to have custody during the summer months; that the two minor children Winnie Ellen Copeland and James C. Copeland, Jr., who is now 13 years of age and who will be 14 years of age on the 1st day of October, 1962 and James C. Copeland, Jr., who is now eleven years of age, have refused to return to the complainant's home in Norfolk, Va., and that the said minor child, Winnie Ellen Copeland alleges that the living conditions in the complainant's home are not suitable for a child of her age and refuses to return to the complainant's home.

WHEREFORE, the premises considered, your respondent prays that your honor, will by proper process make the said Betty Jean Copeland Bramlett a proper party to this petition, requiring her to appear and plead, answer or demur to the same within the time and under the penalties prescribed by law and the practice of this honorable court.

Your petitioner furtherprays that upon a hearing hereof, your honor will enter an order or decree allowing the two minor children to remain in the respondent's home during both the summer and winter months.

Your respondent further prays that your honor will enter an order requring the said heretofore mentioned minor children to remain within the jurisdiction of this court, until a final hearing is had in this court.

Your respondent further prays for such other different relief as in the premises he may be entitled to receive.

Respectfully submitted.

James C. Zopeland

Solicitor for Complainant

#### STATE OF ALABAMA

#### BALDWIN COUNTY

Personally appeared before me the undersigned authority, James C. Copeland, who being by me first duly and legally sworn doth depose and sayd:

The matters and facts alleged in the foregoing petition are true and correct.

James C. Copeland

Sworn to and subscribed before

me on this the 1th day of

May, 1962.

Rotary Public

ALISE | DUOK CLERK REGIST

BETTY JEAN COPELAND BRAMLETT, IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

Complainant BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

VS IN EQUITY

JAMES C. COPELAND,

Respondent

ORDER

This matter coming on to be heard upon the sworn petition of the respondent in said cause, and it appearing to the court from such petition that under the agreement of the parties, Complainant shall have the right to remove the minor children from the jurisdiction of the court; and it further appearing to the court that neither party shall have the right to remove such children from the jurisdiction of the court until a hearing is had on the said petition, it is, therefore

ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED by the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, in equity, that the complainant is hereby enjoined and restrained from removing the minor children of the parties of Baldwin County, Alabama, until a final hearing is held on said petition; that pending a final hearing in this cause, the respondent shall keep the custody of the minor children in his possession in Baldwin County, Alabama.

The court hereby retains jurisdiction of this cause for such other and further orders and decrees as may be rendered in the premises.

It is further ordered that a copy of this order shall be served on the complainant by registered mail at: 8141 km Shore Drive, Lot 576, Norfolk 3, Va..

Done this the 10 day of May . 1962.

Judge of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama

FILED

MAY 10 1882

ALICE I DUCK, CLERK REGISTER

BETTY	JEAN COPELAND	Q	
	<b>COMPLAINANT</b>	ğ	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
vs.		Ş	BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA
JAMES	C. COPELAND	<b>Q</b>	IN EQUITY
	res pondent	Ŏ	

#### ANSWER AND WAIVER

Now comes the Respondent, in his own proper person, and admits the allegations contained in the Bill of Complaint filed in the above styled cause as to ages, residence, marriage and children, but denies all other allegations therein contained and demands strict proof of the same.

The Respondent waives notice of the time of taking of testimony on behalf of the complainant; the right to cross-examine complainant is witnesses; and agrees that this cause be submitted for final decree without further notice.

James le Copeland
Respondent

STATE OF ALABAMA

BALDWIN COUNTY

I, , a Notary Public, in and for said County, in said State, hereby certify that James C. Copeland, whose name is signed to the foregoing instrument, and who is known to me, acknowledged before me on this day, that, being informed of the contents of said instrument, he executed the same voluntarily on the day the same bears date.

Given under my hand and seal on this the day of and 1958.

Notary Public

#### BETTY JEAN COPELAND

COMPLAINANT

VS.

JAMES C. DOPELAND

RES PONDENT

ANSWER AND WAIVER

FILED JAIN 23 1958

ALGE I. BSCK, Register

# THE STATE OF ALABAMA Baldwin County

Circuit Court

TO: Ophelia J. Quinley

KNOW YE: That we, having full faith in your prudence and competency, have appointed you Commissioner, and by these presents do authorize you, as such time and place as you may appoint, to call before you and examine Betty Jean Copeland and Lois Williams

a witness in behalf of Complainant
Circuit Court in Baldwin County, of said State, wherein

in a cause pending in our

Betty Jean Copeland

, Complainant

and

James C. Copeland

Respondent

on oath, to be by you administered, upon Betty Jean Copeland and Lois Williams to take and certify the deposition of the witness <sup>e.S</sup>and return the same to our Court, with all convenient speed, under your hand.

Witness

23

day of

fun

, 195 <sup>S</sup>

~~\_\_\_

Commissioner's Fee, \$

Witness' Fees, \$

## THE STATE OF ALABAMA Baldwin County

### CIRCUIT COURT

BETTY JEAN COPELAND

Complainant

JAMES C. COPELAND

Defendant

COMMISSION TO TAKE DEPOSITION

VS.

COMMISSIONER:

WITNESSES:

#### THE STATE OF ALABAMA

Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama

	Baldwin County.		J		(III Equity)		
		BETTY	JEAN COL	PELAND	Complai	nant	
	ing and the second		VS.				· .
	1 <u></u>	JAMES	C. COPET	LAND	Respond	ent	and the
I,	Ophelia Qui	nley				<u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>	
have called a	and Commissioner and caused to com	e before m					Williams
witness es 1 1958, at in Fairhp	named in the Req the office of be, Alabama	uirement for V.	Duck a, and havi	ng first swo	rn said Witnes	sses to	speak the
	hole truth, and not	100.0			<u> </u>		

My names is Betty Jean Copeland. I am the Complainant in the above styled cause and over the age of 21 years and I am a bona fide resident of Baldwin County, Alabama; The Respondent, James C. Copeland is over the age of 21 years and is a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama.

The Respondent and I were married at Orange Texas, on the 20th day of August, 1956, and lived together as husband and wife until on to-wit; July 17th, 1957.

On July 17, 1957, and on various occassions prior thereto the Respondent threatened and abused me and threatened to do actual violence to my person which would necesarrily endanger my life and health; that the conduct of the Respondent was such as to give me every reasonable apprehension to believe and I did actually believe that if I continued living with the Respondent, he would do actual violence to my person which would necessarily endanger my life and health; We have two minor children, Winnie Ellen Copeland and James C. Copeland Jr., who are now living with me and have been every since the Respondent and I separated. That I am a suitable and proper person to have their care custody and control. That the Respondent is an able bodied man, and is capable of supporting said minor children.

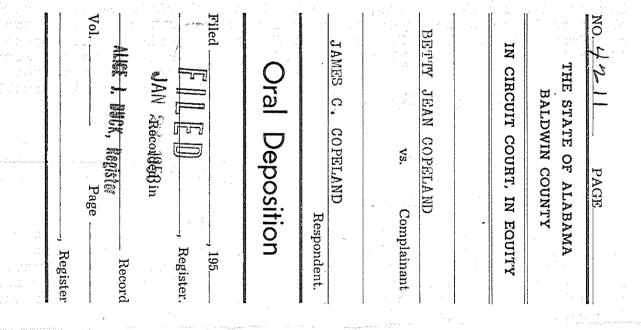
Betty Jean Copeland /

Testimony of Lois Williams.

I have known the Complainant and the My name is Lois Williams. Respondent throughout their married life. They have had trouble from the beginning of their marriage. I believe that the Complainant would be a suitable and proper person to have the care custody and control of their minor children. I belive that it would be to the best interest of all concerned that this divorce be granted.

Lair Williams

I,Ophelia Quinley, as Register and Commissioner hereby certify that
the foregoing deposition on Oral Examination was taken down by me in writing in the words
of the witness es and read over to them and they signed the same in the presence of
myself and John V. Duck
at the time and place herein mentioned; that I have personal knowledge of personal identity of
said witness es or had proom made before me of the identity of said witnesses; that I am not of
counsel or kin to any of the parties to said cause, or any manner interested in the result thereof
I enclose the said Oral Examination in an envelope to the Register of said Court.
Given under my hand and seal, this 22 day of January , 195 8
Ophelia Zunley (L. S.)



	THE STATE OF ALABAMA
BETTY JEAN COPELAND	Baldwin County
vs.	
JAMES C. COPELAND	IN EQUITY
	-
	Circuit Court of Baldwin County
	-
This cause is submitted in behalf of the Testimony of Betty Jean Copeland and	Complaint upon the criginal Bill of Complaint d Lois Williams
Topolimony of 2000y court opposition	
	*
and in behalf of Defendant upon answer and	walver
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M	alice f- which
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## THE STATE OF ALABAMA Baldwin County

TAT ECCITITY

IN EQUIII				
Circuit	Court	of	Baldwin	County

VS.

### Note of Testimony

Filed in Open Court this\_\_\_\_\_

JAN 23 1958

Register.

MOORE PRINTING CO. HAY WINETEE