

4457

DIVORCE DECREE

MOORE PRINTING COMPANY - DAY MINETTE, ALA.

The State of Alabama, Baldwin County

CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

ANNA LOU STEARNS, Complainant  
vs.

VERNON A. STEARNS, Respondent

This cause coming on to be heard was submitted upon Bill of Complaint, Decree Pro Confesso on Answer and Waiver 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 ANNA LOU STEARNS is forever divorced from the said VERNON A. STEARNS for and on account of CRUELTY.

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 that Anna Lou Stearns the Complainant pay the cost herein to be taxed, for which executed may issue.

This 27<sup>th</sup> day of December 1918  
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 the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_

Register of Circuit Court, In Equity.

No.----- Page-----

THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
BALDWIN COUNTY

In Circuit Court, In Equity

ANNA LOU STEARNS

Complainant

vs.

VERNON A. STEARNS

Respondent

DIVORCE DECREE

FILED  
DEC 29 1958  
ALICE J. DUCK, CLERK  
REGISTER

ANNA LOU STEARNS

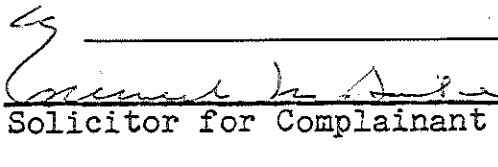
VS.

VERNON A. STEARNS

THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
Baldwin CountyIN EQUITY  
Circuit Court of Baldwin County

This cause is submitted in behalf of Complaint upon the original Bill of Complaint,  
and Oral Testimony of Witnesses

and in behalf of Defendant upon Answer and Waiver

  
Solicitor for Complainant  
Register.

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

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**THE STATE OF ALABAMA**  
**Baldwin County**

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**IN EQUITY**  
Circuit Court of Baldwin County

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ANNA LOU STEARNS

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VS.

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VERNON A. STEARNS

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**Note of Testimony**

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

day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_

DEC 29 1958

ALICE J. DUCK, Register Register.

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MOORE PRINTING CO., BAY MINETTE, ALA.

COMMISSION TO TAKE DEPOSITIONS

THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
Baldwin County

Circuit Court

TO: Helen Bailey

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 Anna Lou Stearns and Verna Lou Stearns

a witness in behalf of Complainant in a cause pending in our  
Circuit Court in Baldwin County, of said State, wherein Anna Lou Stearns

and Vernon A. Stearns , Complainant

on oath, to be by you administered, upon Anna Lou Stearns and Verna Lou Stearns  
to take and certify the deposition S of the witness S and return the same to our Court, with all con-  
venient speed, under your hand.

Witness 19<sup>th</sup> day of December

195 8

Alice J. Luck  
Register.

Commissioner's Fee, \$

Witness' Fees, \$

No.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
Baldwin County

CIRCUIT COURT

ANNA LOU STEARNS

VS. Complainant

VERNON A. STEARNS

Defendant

COMMISSION TO TAKE DEPOSITION

COMMISSIONER:  
HELEN BAILEY

WITNESSES:

ANNA LOU STEARNS  
VERNA LOU STEARNS

STATE OF ALABAMA       )  
                                  )  
BALDWIN COUNTY        )

TO ANY SHERIFF OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA:

You are hereby commanded to summon Vernon A. Stearns to appear and plead, answer or demur, within thirty days from the service hereof, to the Bill of Complaint filed in the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, in Equity, by Anna Lou Stearns, as Complainant, against Vernon A. Stearns, as Respondent.

Witness my hand this the 2 day of <sup>Dec.</sup>~~November~~, 1958.

Alice J. Luck  
REGISTER

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ANNA LOU STEARNS,	Ø	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
Complainant		BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA
vs.	Ø	IN EQUITY
VERNON A. STEARNS,	Ø	
Respondent		

Comes your Complainant, Anna Lou Stearns, and files this her Bill of Complaint for divorce against Vernon A. Stearns and shows unto Your Honor and unto this Honorable Court as follows:

FIRST:

That your Complainant and the Respondent are both over the ages of twenty-one years and are bona fide residents of Baldwin County, Alabama, residing in Fairhope, Alabama.

SECOND:

That your Complainant and the Respondent were married on, heretofore, to-wit, October 18, 1930 and lived together as husband and wife until on, to-wit, November 25, 1958, when, on account of the matters hereinafter complained of, your Complainant was compelled to live separate and apart from Respondent; your Complainant avers and alleges that the said Respondent has, since her said marriage to him, become addicted to habitual drunkenness, and that said habit has continued to the filing of this Bill; your Complainant further avers and char-

ges that Respondent has made threats to do her bodily harm and from his manner and conduct toward her, she is reasonably convinced that he will commit an actual violence upon her person, attended with danger to her life and health.

THIRD:

That there are no minor children of this marriage between Complainant and Respondent. That the Complainant and Respondent are jointly seized of real property located in the City of Fairhope, Alabama and your Complainant waives her right, title and interest in said property and is willing to convey the same to Respondent; that further, the Complainant and Respondent are jointly seized of personal property and household furnishings, of which Complainant claims all right and title thereto. That your Complainant has employed Ernest M. Bailey as her Solicitor of Record to prosecute this cause of action and she is unable to pay him a reasonable Solicitor's fee for his services in this matter.

PRAYER FOR PROCESS AND RELIEF:

The premises considered, your Complainant prays that the above named Vernon A. Stearns be made a party defendant to this cause by the usual writ or process of this Honorable Court requiring him to appear and plead, answer or demur within the time and under the penalties prescribed by the rules of this Court and the Statutes in such cases made and provided; that Your Honor will also order and decree that Respondent be required to pay Ernest M. Bailey a reasonable Solicitor's fee for his services in prosecuting this cause; and that Your Honor will grant unto Complainant an absolute divorce from said Respondent and will decree that the parties be allowed to remarry if they see fit. Should your Complainant be mistaken in the relief prayed for, that there be granted to her such other, further and different relief to which she may be entitled and as in duty bound she will ever pray.

Anna Lou Stearns  
COMPLAINANT

STATE OF ALABAMA -- BALDWIN COUNTY:

Before me, the undersigned notary public in and for said state and county, personally appeared Anna Lou Stearns, who after being by me first duly sworn, says: That the allegations contained in the foregoing Bill of Complaint are true.

Anna Lou Stearns  
ANNA LOU STEARNS  
Ernest M. Bailey  
NOTARY PUBLIC

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 28<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1958.



4457  
ANNA LOU STEARNS,

Complainant

versus

VERNON A. STEARNS,

Respondent

SUMMONS AND BILL OF COMPLAINT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA  
IN EQUITY

*Defendant lives  
in Fairhope Ala*

FILED

DEC 3 1958

ALICE J. DUCK, CLERK  
REGISTER

received 3 day of Dec 1958  
and on 5 day of Dec 1958  
served a copy of the within Bill of Complaint  
on Vernon A. Stearns  
By service on Vernon A. Stearns

TAYLOR WILKINS, Sheriff

By Ted Wilkins Jr D.:

*at Fairhope*

Sheriff claims 20 miles at

Ten Cents per mile Total \$ 2.00

TAYLOR WILKINS, Sheriff

BY Jessie  
DEPUTY SHERIFF

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
BALDWIN COUNTY

Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama  
(In Equity)

ANNA LOU STEARNS

COMPLAINANT

vs.

VERNON A. STEARNS

RESPONDENT

I, Helen Bailey

as Register and Commissioner

have called and caused to come before me Anna Lou Stearns and Verna Lou Stearns

witness es named in the requirement for Oral Examination, on the 22nd day of December,  
1958, at the office of Ernest M. Bailey, Attorney at Law,  
in Fairhope, Alabama, and having first sworn said witness es to speak the  
truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, the said Anna Lou Stearns  
and Verna Lou Stearns doth depose and say as follows:

TESTIMONY OF ANNA LOU STEARNS:

My name is Anna Lou Stearns and I am the Complainant in the above styled cause. The Respondent's name is Vernon A. Stearns and we are both over the age of twenty-one years and residents of Fairhope, Baldwin County, Alabama. We were married in Mobile, Alabama on October 18, 1930 and lived together as husband and wife until on November 25, 1958. On that date the Respondent abused and threatened to do violence to my person and I am of the opinion that if we continue to live together as husband and wife, the Respondent will actually commit bodily violence upon my person or will injure me permanently.

Anna Lou Stearns  
Anna Lou Stearns

TESTIMONY OF VERNA LOU STEARNS:

My name is Verna Lou Stearns and I am the daughter of the Complainant and Respondent in the above styled cause. I am over the age of twenty-one years. On numerous occasions I have seen my mother emotionally disturbed by threats of physical harm to her person made by my father. I have also heard him threaten her on many occasions.

Verna Lou Stearns  
VERNA LOU STEARNS

I, Helen Bailey as Register and Commissioner hereby certify that the foregoing deposition on Oral Examination was taken down in writing by me in the words of the witness es and read over to them and they signed the same in the presence of myself and Ernest M. Bailey at the time and place herein mentioned; that I have personal knowledge of personal identity of said witness es or had proof made before me of the identity of said witness es; that I am not of counsel or of 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 22nd day of December, 1958.

Helen Bailey (L. S.)

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

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

ANNA LOU STEARNS

COMPLAINANT

vs.

VERN ON A. STEARNS

RESPONDENT

ORAL DEPOSITION

Filed \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_\_

FILED

DEC 29 1958 Register.

ALICE RECORDED & INDEXED

Record

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

Register.

ANNA LOU STEARNS,  
Complainant

vs.

VERNON A. STEARNS,  
Respondent

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA  
IN EQUITY

ANSWER AND WAIVER

Comes the Respondent in the above styled cause, and for answer to the Bill of Complaint filed in said cause and each and every paragraph thereof, separately and severally, says:

1. Respondent admits the allegations of the First Paragraph of the Bill of Complaint.
2. Respondent admits the allegations of the Second Paragraph of the Bill of Complaint as to the date of marriage and date of separation but denies all other allegations of this Paragraph and demands strict proof of the same.
3. Respondent admits the allegations of the Third Paragraph of the Bill of Complaint.

Respondent hereby accepts service of a copy of the summons and Complaint in this cause and waives further service of the same. Respondent also waives notice of the taking of testimony and notice of submission of this cause and agrees that the testimony may be taken and the cause submitted without further notice to him.

Vernon A. Stearns  
RESPONDENT

STATE OF ALABAMA )  
BALDWIN COUNTY )

I, the undersigned notary public in and for said state and county, certify that Vernon A. Stearns, 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 the instrument, he executed the same voluntarily on day same bears date.

Given under my hand and seal this the 18<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1958.

My commission expires June 10, 1962.

James M. Bailey  
NOTARY PUBLIC

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA  
IN EQUITY

ANSWER AND WAIVER

ANNA LOU STEARNS,  
Complainant

vs.

VERNON A. STEARNS,  
Respondent

4457

filed Dec. 19, 1958  
Alice J. Luck  
Register

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