

4521

DIVORCE DECREE

MOORE PRINTING COMPANY - BAY MINETTE, ALA.

The State of Alabama, Baldwin County

CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE, Complainant

vs.

VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE, Respondent

This cause coming on to be heard was submitted upon Bill of Complaint, Decree/Pro/Confesso on Respondents 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 THEODORE H. LAWRENCE is forever divorced from the said VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE for and on account of

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 the Complainant and Respondent be, and they are hereby permitted to again contract marriage upon payment of the cost of this suit.

It is further ordered that THEODORE H. LAWRENCE the COMPLAINANT pay the cost herein to be taxed, for which executed may issue.

This 5 day of MARCH 19 59

Robert M. [Signature]

Judge Circuit Court, In Equity.

I, [Signature], 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. 1521 Page _____

THE STATE OF ALABAMA
BALDWIN COUNTY

In Circuit Court, In Equity

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE
Complainant

vs.

VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE
Respondent

DIVORCE DECREE

FILED
MAR 15 1959
ALICE J. DUCK, CLERK
REGISTER

No. 4541

**THE STATE OF ALABAMA
Baldwin County**

CIRCUIT COURT

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE
Complainant

VS.

VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE
Defendant

COMMISSION TO TAKE DEPOSITION

COMMISSIONER:
GLEND A. SWITZER

WITNESSES:

My meetings and proceedings are necessary and lawful in order to take the deposition of the defendant and to take the testimony of the witnesses and the record of the same.

and to take the testimony of the witnesses and the record of the same.

and to take the testimony of the witnesses and the record of the same.

and to take the testimony of the witnesses and the record of the same.

and to take the testimony of the witnesses and the record of the same.

and to take the testimony of the witnesses and the record of the same.

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE

COMPLAINANT

vs.

VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE

RESPONDENT

THE STATE OF ALABAMA
Baldwin County

IN EQUITY
Circuit Court of Baldwin County

This cause is submitted in behalf of Complaint upon the original Bill of Complaint,
Respondent's answer and waiver; commission to take oral deposition;
oral deposition of the complainant's witnesses; agreement of
parties.

and in behalf of Defendant upon

ATTORNEY FOR COMPLAINANT

W. J. W. W. W.

Register.

W
No. 21921

THE STATE OF ALABAMA
Baldwin County

IN EQUITY
Circuit Court of Baldwin County

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE

COMPLAINANT

VS.

VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE

RESPONDENT

Note of Testimony

Filed in Open Court this

FILED

day of May 5, 191950

ALICE J. DICK, CLERK
REGISTER, Register.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA
BALDWIN COUNTY

Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama
(In Equity)

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE
COMPLAINANT

vs.
VERA L. LAWRENCE
RESPONDENT

GLEENDA E. SWITZER

as Register and Commissioner

have called and caused to come before me

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE

witness named in the requirement for Oral Examination, on the 7th day of MARCH
19 59, at the office of GLEENDA E. SWITZER

in FOLEY, Alabama, and having first sworn said witness to speak the
truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, the said THEODORE H. LAWRENCE

doth depose and say as follows:

My name is Theodore H. Lawrence. I am over the age of
twenty-one years and I am now and have been a resident of Bal-
dwin County, Alabama for over a year. Vera L. Lawrence is over
the age of twenty-one years and is a resident of Baldwin County,
Alabama.

I was legally married to Vera L. Lawrence on November 13,
1957 at Bessemer, Alabama. We do not have any children.

Vera L. Lawrence voluntarily abandoned me in December, 1957,
and we have not lived together or in any way recognized each
other as husband and wife since she abandoned me.

Theodore H. Lawrence

AMAR...
YALDO...
TRUD...
COMMISSIONER

ORAL EXAMINATION

I, **GLEND A. SWITZER** 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 and read over to him and he signed the same in the presence of myself and at the time and place herein mentioned; that I have personal knowledge of personal identity of said witness or had proof made before me of the identity of said witness ; 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 4th day of MARCH, 19 59.

Glenda E. Switzer (L. S.)

No. 1194-1 Page

THE STATE OF ALABAMA
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE

COMPLAINANT

vs.

VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE

RESPONDENT

ORAL DEPOSITION

Filed

FILED

, 19

MAR 51 1959

, Register.

RECORDED IN

Record

Vol.

Page

, Register.

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE

Complainant

VS.

VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE

Respondent

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN EQUITY
CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY

This cause is submitted in behalf of ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~, VERA LOUISE
LAWRENCE upon the sworn petition, admissions in answer and the
testimony of Vera Louise Lawrence

and in behalf of ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Theodore H. Lawrence answer

Alice M. Ruck Register.
Caroline Stone
Secretaries for Vera Louise Lawrence

111

No. _____

The State of Alabama,
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN EQUITY

CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY

VS.

NOTE OF TESTIMONY

Filed in Open Court this _____

day of _____ 194 _____

AUG 26 1959

Alice J. Duck, CLERK
REGISTER

Register.

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE,	X	
Complainant,	X	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
vs.	X	
	X	BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA
VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE,	X	
Respondent.	X	IN EQUITY NO. 4521
	X	

The above matter coming on to be heard upon the sworn petition of Vera Louise Lawrence, the Answer of Theodore H. Lawrence and the testimony as noted by the Register, and the Court having considered the same is of the opinion that such petition should be granted and the divorce decree heretofore entered in said cause should be set aside and declared null and void.

It appearing to the Court from the sworn petition and from the testimony taken in said cause that Vera Louise Lawrence had not voluntarily abandoned the said Theodore H. Lawrence for one year prior to the filing of the Bill of Complaint which was filed by Theodore H. Lawrence. And it further appearing to the Court that the answer and waiver which the said Theodore H. Lawrence filed in said cause, purporting to be an answer and waiver of Vera Louise Lawrence was executed at a time long prior to the filing of said suit and that the said Vera Louise Lawrence did not have proper notice of the filing of said suit.

It is therefore ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED by the Court that the divorce decree rendered by this Court in said cause on March 5, 1959, is hereby set aside and such decree is hereby declared to be null and void and of no force and effect.

It is further ORDERED, ADJUDGED and DECREED by the Court that the said Theodore H. Lawrence shall pay costs which have accrued in this cause, for which let execution issue.

Done this 26th day of August, 1959.

FILED

AUG 26 1959

ALICE J. DUCK, CLERK
REGISTER

Robert M. Spivey

Judge

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE)
COMPLAINANT)
VS:)
VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE)
RESPONDENT)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA
IN EQUITY

To the Honorable Judge of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County,
Alabama, Sitting in Equity:

Your Complainant Theodore H. Lawrence respectfully repre-
sents and shows unto your Honor:

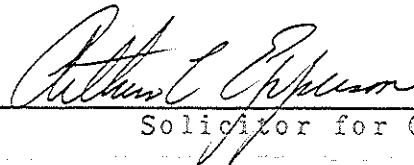
1. That complainant is over the age of twenty-one years
and is a resident of said State and County, and has been a bona
fide resident of said State for more than one year next pre-
ceding the filing of this Bill of Complaint; and that Vera L.
Lawrence is over the age of twenty-one years and resides in Bal-
dwin County, Alabama.

2. That your complainant and respondent were lawfully marr-
ied on or about, to-wit; November 13, 1957, at Bessemer, Alabama,
and of this marriage there are no children.

3. Complainant further avers that said respondent voluntarily
abandoned the bed and board of complainant for more than one year
next preceding the filing of this Bill of Complaint, since which
time, complainant and respondent have not lived together nor in
any way recognized each other as husband and wife.

The premises considered, your complainant makes the said
Vera L. Lawrence a party respondent to this Bill of Complaint,
and in order that complainant may have the relief herein prayed
for, may it please your Honor to cause the State's writ of subpoena
to be issued, directed to the said Vera L. Lawrence, commanding her
to answer, plead or demur to this Bill of complaint, within the
time required by law; and that on a final hearing of this cause,
that your Honor will enter a decree divorcing your complainant
from said respondent; and that your Honor will grant such other,
further and different relief as unto your Honor may seem just
and proper, and your complainant will ever pray.

Filed
March 5, 1959


Solicitor for Complainant

700.45 2.1

STATE OF ALABAMA
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN EQUITY

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE
COMPLAINANT

VS:

VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE
RESPONDENT

BILL OF COMPLAINT

FILED

MAR 5 1950

ALICE J. DUCK, CLERK
REGISTER

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE)
COMPLAINANT)
VS)
VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE)
RESPONDENT)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA
IN EQUITY

Comes the Respondent in the above styled cause and accepts service of a bill of complaint hereto filed in this cause; waives notice of filing of interrogatories in this cause and the right to cross same; waives notice of the taking of testimony in said cause and consents that the same may be taken and the cause submitted for final decree, and for answer to the complaint heretofiled in the cause, the respondent says:

1. She admits the allegations contained in paragraphs One and Two of the bill of complaint.

2. She denies the allegations of paragraph three of the bill of complaint and demands and requires strict proof of the same.

Vera Louise Lawrence
RESPONDENT

Chas E. Hankins
WITNESS

Pearl O. Spencer
WITNESS

Filed Mar. 5, 1959

704521

STATE OF ALABAMA
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN EQUITY

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE
COMPLAINANT

VS:

VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE
RESPONDENT

ANSWER AND WAIVER

FILED

MAR 15 1959

ALICE J. DUCK, CLERK
REGISTER

[Faint, mostly illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE,	Y	
Complainant,	Y	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
vs.	Y	
	Y	BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA
VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE,	Y	
Respondent.	Y	IN EQUITY NO. 4521
	Y	

Comes the Respondent in the above styled cause and shows unto this Honorable Court as follows:

That she is now residing with her mother, Mrs. C. A. Poralla, at 2962 Butte Street, Santa Clara, California; that she does not know where the Complainant now resides but according to testimony which he gave in the above styled cause on March 4, 1959, he was a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama, at that time.

On March 5, 1959, the Complainant, acting by and through Arthur Epperson, his Solicitor, filed a Bill of Complaint for divorce in favor of the Complainant and against the Respondent. Such bill alleged that both of the parties to the Bill of Complaint had been resident citizens of Baldwin County, Alabama, for more than one year next preceding the filing of the Bill of Complaint. Such bill further alleged that the parties married on November 13, 1957, at Bessemer, Alabama, and that the Respondent had voluntarily abandoned the Complainant more than one year prior to March 5, 1959. The testimony of the Complainant upon which the divorce was granted states that the Respondent abandoned the Complainant in December of 1957. The divorce decree which was issued by this Court, on answer and waiver, on March 5, 1959, does not state the grounds upon which the divorce was granted. The facts alleged in the Bill of Complaint are not true. The true facts in regard to the married life and separation of the parties are as set out in the next paragraphs of this petition.

Your Respondent and the Complainant did marry in Bessemer, Alabama, on November 13, 1957. There was a temporary separation of the parties prior to August of 1958, at which time the Complainant persuaded the Respondent to sign the waiver which he filed in this cause. Such waiver was signed by the Respondent in either the first or the second week of August, 1958, and one of the witnesses to such

waiver was a lawyer who had his office in Bessemer and whose name is Charles E. Hawkins, Jr. Soon after the execution of such waiver the Respondent resumed marital relations with the Complainant and the Complainant informed her that he had destroyed such waiver. About the first of September, 1958, while Respondent was visiting her mother in California, the Complainant went to California and lived with the Respondent as man and wife for about two weeks. The Respondent returned to Alabama with the Complainant in October, 1958, and they lived together as man and wife from sometimes in October of 1958, until about the 5th of February, 1959. The Respondent became pregnant as a result of sexual intercourse with the Complainant sometime near the latter part of January, 1959.

The Respondent had no knowledge of the divorce suit being filed until a copy of the divorce decree which was rendered on March 5, 1959, was mailed to her on April 3, 1959, and the Respondent now desires that such decree be set aside because it was obtained by fraud on the part of the Complainant.

The waiver which was signed by the Respondent in Bessemer, Alabama, in August of 1958, and which is not dated except for its filing date on March 5, 1959, alleges that the Respondent accepts service of a copy of the Bill of Complaint hereto filed in this cause. No such Bill of Complaint had been filed when the Respondent executed such waiver in August of 1958. Had the Respondent received notice of the Bill of Complaint for divorce which was filed in this Court on March 5, 1959, she would not have executed a waiver but would have contested the granting of such divorce. No provisions were made for support of such Respondent in the divorce decree and no provisions were made for the support of the unborn child of the parties.

WHEREFORE, Vera Louise Lawrence, as the Respondent in the above styled cause, prays that a copy of this petition be served by the Sheriff of Baldwin County, Alabama, upon Theodore H. Lawrence, the Complainant in said cause, or if he cannot be found in Baldwin County, Alabama, that a copy be served upon Arthur Epperson as his Solicitor of record. Upon a final hearing of this cause your Respondent prays that the divorce decree which was granted in said cause

be set aside and be declared null and void and of no force or effect. That the Court shall order and decree a proper amount to be paid to your Respondent as support and maintenance and that such Complainant be required to pay the solicitor's fee of Chason & Stone, Solicitors for Respondent, for prosecuting this petition, your Respondent being unable to pay a reasonable solicitor's fee, her entire income being Ninety-one Dollars (\$91.00) per month. That this Court will grant such other and further orders and decrees as may be proper in the premises.

✓ Vera Louise Lawrence

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Santa Clara COUNTY

Before me, Velma E. Silva, a Notary Public, in and for said County in said State, personally appeared Vera Louise Lawrence, who is known to me and who, after being by me first duly and legally sworn, did depose and say under oath as follows:

That her name is Vera Louise Lawrence and she is the Respondent in the above styled cause and she signed the foregoing petition and all of the matters and facts alleged therein are true and correct.

✓ Vera Louise Lawrence

Sworn to and subscribed before me
on this the 17th day of April, 1959.

Velma E. Silva
Notary Public, Santa Clara County, California

Filed
April 20, 1959
Alice J. Luck

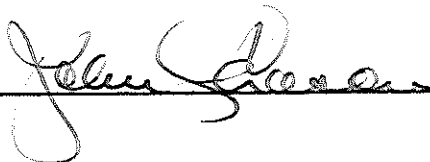
Exp. April 28, 1959
on Arthur C. Epperson

STATE OF ALABAMA

BALDWIN COUNTY

Before me, Blanche White, a Notary Public, in and for said County in said State, personally appeared John Chason, who is known to me and who, after being by me duly and legally sworn, did depose and say under oath as follows:

That his name is John Chason; that he is now one of the Solicitors of Record for Vera Louise Lawrence who was the Respondent in that certain bill for divorce filed by Theodore H. Lawrence in the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, In Equity, on March 5, 1959, being cause # 4521. That the said Vera Louise Lawrence has filed her petition in said cause alleging that the decree of divorce in said cause, which was rendered on March 5, 1959, was obtained by fraud and prayed that such decree be declared null and void and of no force and effect. The said Theodore H. Lawrence is now believed to be a non-resident of the State of Alabama, and his present post-office address is believed to be Electric Shop, Hanger 1853 Sherman Field, Pensacola, Florida. It is necessary that service of a copy of such petition be had by mailing the same to the said Theodore H. Lawrence at the above address by certified mail, postage prepaid, marked for delivery only to the person to whom addressed, with a return receipt demanded.



Sworn to and subscribed before me
on this the 29th day of May, 1959.


Notary Public, Baldwin County, Alabama

FILED

MAY 29 1959

ALICE I. DUCK, CLERK
REGISTER

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE	0	
Complainant)	
	0	
VS.)	
	6	
)	
VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE	0	
RESPONDENT)	

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA
IN EQUITY
NO. 4521

Comes Arthur C. Epperson, Attorney and for answer to the Bill of complaint filed by the respondent through her attorneys Chason and Stone and served on the said Arthur C. Epperson says:

1. That the bill filed by the respondent on April 20, 1959 and styled as above is a bill in the nature of a bill of review or a Bill of Review and the same constitutes a new and separate action, based on an allegation of fraud, from any bill heretofore filed and completed in this honorable Court.

2. That the said Arthur C. Epperson is not a party to the suit either as complainant or respondent.

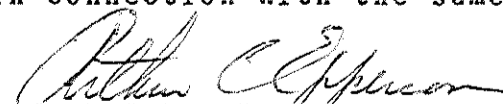
3. That the said Arthur C. Epperson does not represent either the Complainant or respondent in this new action.

4. That the said Arthur C. Epperson is not informed of the whereabouts of the said Theodore H. Lawrence other than he is or was member of the U. S. Navy.

5. That the said Vera Louise Lawrence is better informed as to the address and whereabouts of said Theodore H. Lawrence and should be able to furnish the same to her attorneys.

The premises considered, it is respectfully prayed that the Honorable Court will take cognance of the facts and position of the undersigned and disallow any service had and obtained upon the undersigned in connection with this bill filed April 20, 1959 and as styled above and will require proper service upon the said ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Theodore H. Lawrence before granting and further action or decrees in connection with the same.

Copy mailed to
Chason & Stone
Bay Minette, Ala.


Arthur C. Epperson

*Filed May 22, 1959
Alice J. Stuck, Register*

IN RE: [Illegible]
[Illegible]
[Illegible]
[Illegible]
[Illegible]

[Illegible text block]

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FILED

MAY 22 1959

ALICE J. DUCK, CLERK REGISTER

4521

112

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,
Baldwin County.

Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama
(In Equity)

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE

Complainant

VS.

VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE

Respondent

I, WILLIAM R. CHRISTY

as Register and Commissioner

have called and caused to come before me Vera Louise Lawrence

witness named in the Requirement for Oral Examination, on the 6 day of August
~~1958~~ 59, at the office of KELLY & CHRISTY, ATTORNEYS
in SANTA CLARA, Ala., and having first sworn said Witness to speak the
truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, the said Vera Louise Lawrence

doth depose and say as follows:

My name is Vera Louise Lawrence and I now reside at 305 Vine Street, San Jose, California. I formerly lived with my mother, Mrs. C. A. Porralla at 2962 Butte Street, Santa Clara California.

I am the wife of Theodore H. Lawrence and we were married in Bessemer, Alabama, on November 13, 1957. We had a temporary separation prior to August of 1958, at which time my husband persuaded me to sign a waiver which he later filed in the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, In Equity, in Case # 4521. I signed such waiver the first or second week of August, 1958, and one of the witnesses to the waiver was a lawyer named Charles E. Hawkins, Jr., who had his office in Bessemer, Alabama. Soon after the execution of such waiver I resumed marital relations with my husband and he informed me that he had destroyed such waiver. I visited in California about the first of September, 1958, and my husband Theodore H. Lawrence came to California and lived with me as man and wife for about two weeks. We returned to Alabama in October of 1958 and lived together as man and wife until about February 5, 1959. As a result of our living together I became pregnant near the latter part of January, 1959.

I did not know that Theodore H. Lawrence had filed a suit for divorce until a copy of the divorce decree which was rendered on March 5, 1959, was mailed to me on April 3, 1959. I later ascertained that my husband had used the waiver which I signed in August of 1958, many months before my husband filed any suit against me. Had I received notice of the filing of such suit I would have contested it. No provisions were made in the decree for my husband to support me or our unborn child.

The testimony given by my husband was to the effect that we had not lived together for more than one year prior to March 5, 1959. This testimony was not true as above stated. It is my desire to have the court decree granting the divorce be set aside as I am still pregnant and I am now living with the said Theodore H. Lawrence as his wife and we expect to continue to live together.

Vera Louise Lawrence
Vera Louise Lawrence

THEODORE H. LAWRENCE

Complainant,

vs.

VERA LOUISE LAWRENCE,

Respondent.

X
X
X
X
X
X

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN EQUITY NO. 4521

Comes Theodore H. Lawrence and accepts service of a copy of the petition to set aside a divorce decree which was filed by Vera Louise Lawrence in Cause # 4521, in the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, In Equity, and waives further notice of the same.

For answer to such petition the said Theodore H. Lawrence says that he is now willing for the divorce decree to be set aside as he and the said Vera Louise Lawrence are living together as man and wife in the State of California and they expect to have a child in the near future.

Done this 18th day of August, 1959.

Theodore H. Lawrence
Theodore H. Lawrence

WITNESS:

Filed
Aug. 26, 1959
Alice J. Cook, Registrar

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
18 day of August 1959
Leon Smith
NOTARY PUBLIC
in and for the County of San Diego, State of California
My Commission Expires Mar. 31, 1961

