

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, BALDWIN COUNTY

CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

WILLIE LEE DAVIS

Complainant

VS.

ERNIE DAVIS

Respondent

This cause coming on to be heard was submitted upon Bill of Complaint, ~~DECEED BY COURT~~ 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 Willie Lee Davis is forever divorced from the said Ernie Davis.

for and on account of Cruelty

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 the payment of the cost of this suit.

It is further ordered that the Respondent pay the cost herein to be taxed, for which execution may issue.

This 8th day of May, 19 45

J. W. Hare
Judge Circuit Court, in Equity.

I, R 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 May, 19 45

Register of Circuit Court, in Equity

No. 1323 Page \_\_\_\_\_

**The State of Alabama**  
BALDWIN COUNTY  
IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

\_\_\_\_\_ vs. Complainant

\_\_\_\_\_ Respondent

**DIVORCE DECREE**

Filed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 194\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Register

THE STATE OF ALABAMA }  
 Baldwin County }

Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama,  
 (In Equity)

Willie Lee Davis

COMPLAINANT

VS.

Ernie Davis

RESPONDENT

I, R. S. Duck

as Register and Commissioner

have called and caused to come before me the complainant, Willie Lee Davis,  
and J. W. Goodwin

witness<sup>es</sup> named in the requirement for Oral Examination, on the 7th day of May  
 1945, at the office of xxx myself  
 in Bay Minette, Alabama, and having first sworn said witness<sup>es</sup> to speak the  
 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, the said Willie Lee Davis

doth depose and say as follows:

My name is Willie Lee Davis. I am the complainant in this cause for divorce against the respondent, Ernie Davis.

The respondent and I are each over the age of twenty-one years. I am now and have been for more than one year next preceding the filing of the bill of complainant in this cause a bona fide resident of Baldwin County, Alabama, and the respondent is also a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama.

The respondent and myself were lawfully married to each other on the 13th day of August, 1941, at Milton, Florida, and lived together as man and wife until the 15th day of August, 1944.

On said last date of August 15, 1944, respondent committed actual violence on my person attended with ~~xxx~~ danger to my life or health and from his conduct there was reasonable apprehension of further acts of such violence attended with danger to my life or health. On said last date respondent also threatened serious bodily harm other than he did or had done, and threatened and abused me and I, fearing for the safety of my life or health refused to live with him further as his wife and we have not lived together as man and wife or otherwise since August 15, 1944, but I have been working and taking care of myself.

Shortly before our separation, the respondent became habitually addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors and drank nearly all of the time. When under its influence, he was very quarrelsome and contentious and threatening. On August 15, 1944, he was drinking to excess, starting to quarrel at me, slapped me with his hand and threatened to hurt me. On account of all this, I was in a seriously rundown physical condition and my health and nerves were bad. I could not stand it any longer, so I had to quit living with him and have not done so since August 15, 1944.

Willie Lee Davis

I, \_\_\_\_\_ 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 \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ 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 \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 194\_\_\_\_\_

(L. S.)

No. 1330

Page \_\_\_\_\_

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  
BALDWIN COUNTY

IN CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

*John*

COMPLAINANT

*John*

VS.

RESPONDENT

ORAL DEPOSITION

Filed 5-7, 1945

*John*, Register.

RECORDED IN

Record \_\_\_\_\_

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

Register \_\_\_\_\_

J. W. Goodwin, a witness on behalf of complainant, having been first duly sworn, testified in substance as follows:

My name is J. W. Goodwin. I live in Bay Minette, Alabama, and have known both parties to this cause for several years before they were married and since.

I have read the testimony of Mrs. Willie Lee Davis and know that it is substantially correct. The respondent in the case about the time that they separated drank a great deal of intoxicating liquors and when he did this he failed or refused to work and was very quarrelsome and contentious. I know that the health of the respondent suffered greatly from his treatment of her as she appeared to be in a rundown condition and if she had not refused to live further with him as his wife I know she would have had a complete nervous breakdown. I have heard them quarrel on several occasions and know that he was very abusive to her. During their married life he never did support her as a husband should but she had to work most of the time to support herself. I know all of this because I was their neighbor and saw them both very often.

J. W. Goodwin

Willie Lee Davis

Complainant

vs.

Ernie Davis

Respondent

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,  
answer of respondent and oral depositions of witnesses.

Willie Lee Davis and J. W. Goodwin

and in behalf of Defendant upon None

*H. E. Smith*  
Solicitor for complainant

Register.

No.

1533

THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
Baldwin County

IN EQUITY  
Circuit Court of Baldwin County

Willie Lee Davis

vs.

Ernie Davis

NOTE OF TESTIMONY

Filed in Open Court this 7

day of May, 1943

*[Handwritten signature]*

Register.

Printed by The Baldwin Times, Bay Minette.

*[Vertical stamp: Noted for compliance with rules]*

*[Vertical stamp: Noted for]*

REQUEST FOR DECREE IN VACATION

Printed by The Baldwin Times

State of Alabama,  
Baldwin County.

} NO. \_\_\_\_\_

TERM, 194 \_\_\_\_\_

Willie Lee Davis

Complainant—

VS.

Ernie Davis

Respondent—

TO R. S. DUCK, REGISTER:

In the above stated cause a answer  
having been filed by ~~xx~~ Ernie Davis the Respondent—,  
and evidence having been taken, and the cause being ready for submission for final decree, and  
no defense having been interposed, the complainant—, by H. E. Smith,  
Solicitor— of record, now files with the Register of this Court this written request to deliver the  
papers in this cause to the Judge for final decree in vacation.

H. E. Smith

Solicitor— for Complainant—



NO.

1330

**Willie Lee Davis**

Complainant—

VS.

**Ernie Davis**

Respondent—

**Request For Decree In Vacation**

Filed

July 7

1943

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Register.

WILLIE LEE DAVIS  
Complainant,

VS:

ERNIE DAVIS  
Respondent.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

IN EQUITY.

ANSWER OF RESPONDENT

Now comes the respondent, Ernie Davis , and for answer to the bill of complaint filed in this cause against him by the Complainant, Willie Lee Davis, he denies each and every allegation of the said bill of complaint and demands strict proof thereof.

And he, the said respondent, waives all service of notice or process of the filing of said bill of complaint, and further waives all notice of the taking of testimony on said cause and further waives all notices of the submission of said cause for final decree.

*Ernie Davis*  
Respondent

STATE OF ALABAMA, )

BALDWIN COUNTY. )

I, *R. S. Duch* a Register in Chancery in and for said State and County, hereby certify that Ernie Davis whose name is signed to the foregoing conveyance and who is known to me, acknowledged before me on this day that, being informed of the contents of the conveyance, he executed the same voluntarily on the day of the same bears date. In witness whereof, I hereto set my hand this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, 1945.

*R. S. Duch*  
Register in Chancery

WILLIE LEE DAVIS, } IN THE CIRCUIT  
 Complainant, } COURT OF  
 VS: } BALDWIN COUNTY,  
 ERNIE DAVIS, } ALABAMA,  
 Respondent, } IN EQUITY.

ANSWER OF RESPONDENT

*Filed May 7 1945*  
*[Signature]*

Willie Lee Davis,  
Complainant

vs.

Ernie Davis,  
Respondent.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA  
IN EQUITY.

TO THE HONORABLE F. W. HARE, JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

Comes now your complainant, Willie Lee Davis, and brings this her bill of complaint against the respondent, Ernie Davis and respectfully alleges unto your Honor and the Court as follows:

1. She and respondent are each over the age of twenty-one years. Complainant is, and has been for more than one year next preceding the filing of this her bill of complaint, a bona fide resident of Baldwin County, Alabama and the respondent is a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama.

2. Complainant and respondent were lawfully married to each other on the 13th day of August, 1941, at Milton, Florida and lived together as man and wife until, to-wit: the 15th day of August, 1944.

3. On said last date of to-wit: August 15th, 1944, respondent committed actual violence on the person of complainant attended with danger to her life or health and from his conduct there was reasonable apprehension of further acts of actual violence by respondent on the person of complainant attended with danger to her life or health. On said last date respondent also threatened to do complainant serious bodily harm other than he did or had done, and threatened and abused complainant and complainant fearing for the safety of her life or health refused to live with him further as his wife and they have not lived together as man and wife since last date.

WHEREOF, the premises considered, complainant prays that the said Ernie Davis be made party respondent to this her bill of complaint and that due process of law issue forthwith for service upon him.

And complainant further prays that upon the final hearing of this cause your Honor and the Court will be pleased to give and grant to her a decree of absolute divorce from the said Ernie Davis, the respondent, and will give and grant to Complainant permission to again marry should she see fit to do so, and complainant further prays for all such other further and orders, decrees and relief as she may be entitled to receive.

Willie Lee Davis  
Complainant

M. E. Smith  
Solicitor for Complainant

1333

WILLIE LEE DAVIS, ) IN THE CIRCUIT  
Complainant, ) COURT OF  
Vs: ) BALDWIN CO.,  
ERNIE DAVIS, ) ALABAMA,  
Respondent, ) IN EQUITY.

BILL OF COMPLAINT

Filed May 17 1945  
J. H. [unclear]  
[unclear]