

**LEGAL AID MANITOBA  
HIGHLY LITIGIOUS FILE MANAGEMENT OPINION FORM**

**1. GENERAL MATTERS**

Certificate Number		Date Form Completed	
Client Name		Counsel Name	
Opposing Party Name		Opposing Counsel	
Length of Relationship		Date of Separation	

**2. ISSUES**

Name of Child(ren)	Age	Residing with or Current Arrangement

a. What issues are involved in this matter?

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b. What issues have been resolved?

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**3. SETTLEMENT ATTEMPTS**

a. Is there a power imbalance in the relationship?                      Yes                      No

If yes, what is it and who does it favour?

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b. What settlement techniques have been used and what was the outcome (example: 4-way meeting, arbitration, mediation referral, Family Resolution Services)?

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c. Has your client completed all steps to move to Triage?                      Yes                      No

If no, what is outstanding and why?

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d. Has Triage been completed?                      Yes                      No

Has a Trial date been set?                      Yes                      No

If yes, what are the dates that have been set: \_\_\_\_\_

**4. REQUIREMENTS TO REACH RESOLUTION**

a. Unresolved Issues:

Of the unresolved issues, please provide an explanation of the positions of the parties and what, in your professional opinion, is the likely outcome at trial of the matter?

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b. Required Expertise:

What experts will be required either for trial or who may be able to assist in reaching a resolution?

Name of Expert	Expertise and why required	Anticipated Cost

c. Property

Address of Marital Property	Value after encumbered debts	In whose possession?

d. What other marital property is outstanding or in dispute and what is the value?

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e. What might the equalization of the family property be if your client is successful?

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f. What unique circumstances impacting complexity should the HLF Committee be made aware of?

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g. How many hours have you expended to date?

h. How many hours do you anticipate to completion?