

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF POLK COUNTY, ARKANSAS  
DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION

EDWARD ROSS CORRISTAN, JR

PLAINTIFF

VS.

NO. 57DR-23-180

STIRLING MORIAH COVA FREEMAN

DEFENDANT

ORDER DENYING EMERGENCY RELIEF

The Court has examined the EX PARTE PETITION FOREMERGENCY RELIEF ,  
MODIFICATION OF AND VISITATION , CONTEMPT AND TEMPORARY HEARING presented to  
it in the above styled case. From a review of the verified pleading the court finds and orders as follows:

1. The plaintiff's petition does not meet the requirements of Rule 65 in that the allegations taken  
as a whole do not conclusively show that either the child or the plaintiff in this case will suffer immediate  
and irreparable injury, loss, or damage before the defendant can be heard in opposition to this motion.  
Neither did the movant's attorney certify in writing any efforts made to give notice to the defendant or her  
attorney and the reasons why it should not be required. Finally, under Rule 65, the court may grant relief  
only if the movant gives security in an amount considered proper by the court.

Furthermore, the courts of this state strongly disfavor ex-parte decision making. As the Arkansas  
Court of Appeals has said "ex parte decision-making is contrary to the basic premise of our justice system  
that an adversarial presentation of a controversy will result in a better reasoned, and hopefully correct,  
decision." *Jones v. Jones*, 51 Ark. App. 24, 29 (1995) *Jones* also held that Rule 65 is the only avenue for  
a litigant to receive ex parte relief in domestic relations matters.

2. Accordingly, the petition for EMERGENCY relief is denied.

3. The plaintiff should contact the Certified Court Manager to set this matter for a hearing after  
the defendant has received notice. He may submit an order to appear and show cause for this purpose.

IT IS SO ORDERED on this the 20th day of November 2025.

/s/ Andy Riner via eFlex  
Circuit Judge



**Case Title:** EDWARD ROSS CORRISTAN V STIRLING MORIAH COVA  
ETAL  
**Case Number:** 57DR-23-180  
**Type:** ORDER EX PARTE

So Ordered

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James A. Riner", is written over a light gray rectangular background.



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James A. Riner, 18th West Judicial Circuit Judge