

Helen Wallace, Administrative Judge
Julie Bruns, Judge



Eric Shafer
Court Administrator

**Montgomery County Common Pleas Court
Juvenile Division**

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The following is for information purposes only and is not in any way intended to be legal advice.

To Whom it May Concern:

Re: Custody Rights of an Unmarried Mother Under Ohio Law

Ohio Revised Code § 3109.042 (A) Custody Rights of Unmarried Mother states:

“An unmarried female who gives birth to a child is the sole residential parent and legal custodian of the child until a court of competent jurisdiction issues an order designating another person as the residential parent and legal custodian. A court designating the residential parent and legal custodian of a child described in this section shall treat the mother and father as standing upon an equality when making the designation.” [emphasis added]

HISTORY:

Amended by 130th General Assembly File No. TBD, SB 207, §1, eff. 3/23/2015.
Effective Date: 01-01-1998