

## **Rule 28. Custody actions**

**(A)** All private actions seeking custody of a child shall be initiated by a sworn application, or in preexisting cases, by motion, accompanied by a child custody affidavit pursuant to R.C. 3109.27, a copy of the child's birth certificate, if a copy is not in the court file, and proof of paternity.

**(B)** Custody actions filed under section (A) of this rule, unless exempted from mediation pursuant to section (C) of Local Rule 8, shall be referred to mediation.

**(C)** As a condition of obtaining custody, an individual may be required to sign a waiver for a background check.

**(D)** Child custody affidavit.

A uniform child custody affidavit shall be filed in all child custody proceedings (excluding complaints for neglect, dependent and abused children). The affidavit must be on a form supplied by the Court or must be in compliance with R.C. 3109.27.