



Family Law

CALL US - BEFORE
YOUR EX DOES!

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You referred to your wife's word as law; you need to determine whether she has the authority to act in this manner.

You didn't mention how you and your wife had settled your issues; do you have a Court Order, a Separation Agreement where you both had lawyers, or neither?

Take a look at your document with respect to four crucial terms: custody, residency, final decision-making authority, and express provisions about how holidays are divided.

Does your wife have sole custody, combined with final decision making authority? Or do you have joint custody, with neither party having final decision making authority? The party having sole custody and/or final decision-making authority, has a great deal of power and autonomy. Joint custody means that decisions are shared and neither party has the upper hand,

unless final decision-making authority is given to one party.

Residency refers to where the children live – do they live with your wife, or are you on a shared parenting arrangement that works with your shift schedule? The important thing to note is that residency is not custody. If the children live with your wife but you have joint custody, she does not get to make all the decisions arbitrarily.

Finally, take a look at the holiday schedule. Normally, holidays supersede regular access, and it is entirely reasonable that you have the children for vacation during your plant shutdown.

If you are unsure, consult with a family lawyer. If your wife remains unreasonable about your summer vacation, you may consider going to Court and doing a motion on the issue.

Your friends at Shank Law.



Roxanne C. Shank
LAWYER

Q

My wife and I are separated. Her word is the law in everything – what activities the kids are in, their doctor, and recently, she won't let me have the kids on my summer vacation during plant shutdown. I am fed up. What can I do?



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