IN THE MONTANA	JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT	
	COUNTY	
IN RE MARRIAGE OF:)	Cause No.:	
Petitioner,	Dept. No:	
and)	Judge:	
	FAMILY LAW ORDER (FLO) FOR DISTRIBUTION OF BENEFITS PAYABLE BY THE MONTANA TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM (TRS)	
MEMBER ("Participant" - not yet i Alternate Payee (payable to the Alternate)	ed only on the account of an ACTIVE or INACTIVE TRS retired) and provides a FIXED AMOUNT BENEFIT to the rnate Payee for a period of time not to exceed the lifetime of ing Joint Annuitant or Beneficiary of the Participant).	
This Court, having entered a Final I	Decree and Dissolution of Marriage in the above-captioned	
proceeding on	, 20, and having jurisdiction of the parties	
and subject matter hereof,		

As authorized by §19-20-305, MCA, this Family Law Order (FLO) requires the Montana Teachers'

accumulated contributions, otherwise payable to the Participant, to the Alternate Payee. This FLO is

Retirement System (TRS) to direct payment of a portion of a retirement benefit or refund of

issued, pursuant to Title 40, MCA, as a disposition of marital property.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

1. THE PARTIES

A.	Participant:	is an active	e or inactive TRS member.
Partici	pant's full legal nar	ne, address, social security number, phone number	er, and birth date are:
	Name:		
	Address:		
	SSN:		
	Phone number:		
	Birth Date:		
B.	Alternate Payee:	is t	he ex-spouse of the
Partici	pant and is entitled	to a portion of the Participant's retirement benefit	or refunded accumulated
contrib	outions as a disposit	ion of marital property.	
Alt	ternate Payee's full	egal name, address, social security number, phone	e number, and birth date are:
	Name:		
	Address:		
	SSN:		
	Phone number:		
	Birth Date:		

2. ALTERNATE PAYEE'S RIGHT TO DISTRIBUTION

or disability retirement benefit, TRS shall distribute to the Alternate Payee a portion of each monthly benefit payment otherwise payable to the Participant (and/or payable to the Participant's joint annuitant or beneficiary if specified in section 3(B)). The portion of the monthly benefit to be distributed to the Alternate Payee will be (mark/complete only one i or ii): ___ Calculated as a percentage of the monthly benefit amount, including a proportionate share of any guaranteed annual benefit adjustment applied to the benefit. The percentage of the monthly benefit amount to be distributed to the Alternate Payee (complete only one): a. ____ will be _____ %; b. ____ will be calculated as _____ % multiplied by the number of years of creditable service earned by Participant during the term of the marriage divided by the total number of years of creditable service used to calculate Participant's benefit. The term of the marriage began on month: ______ day: _____ year: ____ and ended: 1. ____ on the date of divorce indicated on page 1, or 2. ____ on the date of separation, month: _____ day: ____ year: ____. OR ii. ___ A fixed dollar amount of \$ ____ per month. The fixed dollar amount may not exceed 100% of the monthly benefit amount payable to or on behalf of the Participant. If the fixed dollar amount exceeds 100% of the monthly benefit amount, the amount payable to the Alternate Payee will be reduced to 100% of the monthly benefit amount. TRS is not required to take any action or make any adjustment to the terms of this FLO to account for any amount by which the fixed dollar amount exceeds the Participant's monthly benefit amount.

TRS's payment to the Alternate Payee of the lesser of the fixed dollar amount or 100% of

the monthly benefit amount shall constitute payment in full by TRS of the required

A. Service, Early, or Disability Retirement Benefit. If the Participant receives a service, early,

distribution to the Alternate Payee.

B. I	B. Death Benefit. In the event of the Participant's death before retirement, TRS shall distribute to					
the Alte	rnate Payee a portion of the Participant's accumulated contributions account balance. The					
portion (of the account balance distributed to the Alternate Payee (mark/complete only one of i, ii, or iii):					
i	will be %;					
(OR					
i	i will be calculated as described in 2.A.i.b;					
	OR					
	ii will be a fixed dollar amount of \$ The fixed dollar amount to be					
	distributed to the Alternate Payee may not exceed 100% of the Participant's accumulated					
	contributions account balance on the date of the Participant's death. If the fixed dollar					
	•					
	amount exceeds 100% of the Participant's accumulated contributions account balance, TRS					
	shall distribute 100% of the Participant's accumulated contributions to the Alternate Payee.					
C. V	Withdrawal of Accumulated Contributions. If the Participant withdraws his/her accumulated					
contribu	tions from TRS, TRS shall distribute to the Alternate Payee a portion of the Participant's					
accumul	lated contributions account balance. The portion of the account balance distributed to the					
Alternat	e Payee (mark/complete only one i, ii, or iii):					
i	will be%;					
	OR					
	i will be calculated as described in 2.A.i.b;					
	OR					
	ii will be a fixed dollar amount of \$ The fixed dollar amount to be					
•	distributed to the Alternate Payee may not exceed 100% of the Participant's accumulated					
	i i					
	contributions account balance on the date of the Participant's death. If the fixed dollar					
	amount exceeds 100% of the Participant's accumulated contributions account balance,					
	TRS shall distribute 100% of the Participant's accumulated contributions to the					
	Alternate Payee.					
D. I	Effect of Rights of Other Alternate Payees. TRS will give effect to the FLO rights of two or					

more alternate payees on the account of Participant in order of priority based on the date on which each FLO became effective with TRS. The requirement for any distribution to the Alternate Payee under

this FLO is subject to reduction, including that no amount may be distributed to the Alternate Payee under this FLO, due to the prior right of any other Alternate Payee(s).

3. DURATION OF DISTRIBUTIONS TO ALTERNATE PAYEE

- **A.** Beginning Date of Distributions. Distributions to or on behalf of the Alternate Payee will become payable on the date this FLO is given effect as described in section 5(B).
- **B. Duration and Termination of Distributions.** Unless the distribution payable to the Alternate Payee terminates earlier pursuant to (C), monthly distributions payable to or on behalf of the Alternate Payee shall be made (mark/complete only one i, ii, or iii):

i	for the lifetime of the Participant only,				
OR					
ii	for the lifetime of the Participant and then, upon the death of the Participant, for the				
	period of time that benefits continue to be paid to the Participant's joint annuitant or				
	beneficiary,				
OR					
iii	for a period of months, except that distribution to the Alternate Payee will				
	cease when benefits are no longer payable to or on behalf of the Participant even if				
	benefits have not been paid to the Alternate Payee for the designated number of months				

- C. Termination of Distributions Upon Death of Alternate Payee. Unless the Alternate Payee is authorized to designate a beneficiary pursuant to section 4(A)(ii), the distribution payable to the Alternate Payee shall terminate upon the death of the Alternate Payee and will revert to the Participant or to the Participant's joint annuitant or beneficiary then receiving benefits.
- **D.** No Distribution Required to Alternate Payee for Any Period Prior to Effective Date. This FLO does not require, and TRS will not make, any distribution to the Alternate Payee for any period of time prior to the effective date of this FLO, as determined by TRS.
- **E.** Adjustment, Suspension or Termination of Benefits. If the benefits payable to or on behalf of the Participant are adjusted, suspended, or terminated by TRS for any reason, the distribution required to be made to the Alternate Payee will also be adjusted, suspended, or terminated as appropriate. If the Participant's benefits are suspended, at the time benefits are reinstated, the amount payable to the Alternate Payee will again be determined in conformity with this FLO.

4. DESIGNATION OF BENEFICIARY BY ALTERNATE PAYEE

- **A. Designation of Beneficiary.** The Alternate Payee (mark only one i or ii):
 - May not designate a beneficiary to receive, upon the Alternate Payee's death, any distributions that would otherwise be payable to the Alternate Payee under this FLO. The distribution payable to the Alternate Payee will terminate upon the Alternate Payee's death and will revert to the Participant or to the Participant's joint annuitant or beneficiary then receiving benefits.

OR

- ii. ____ May designate a beneficiary to receive, upon the Alternate Payee's death, any distributions that would otherwise be payable to the Alternate Payee. The Alternate Payee must designate a beneficiary using a form provided by TRS and in conformity with TRS requirements. If the Alternate Payee does not have a valid beneficiary designation on file with TRS at the time of the Alternate Payee's death, or if the Alternate Payee's designated beneficiary has predeceased the Alternate Payee, the distribution payable to the Alternate Payee will terminate upon the death of the Alternate Payee and will revert to the Participant or to the Participant's joint annuitant or beneficiary then receiving benefits. Upon the death of the Alternate Payee will terminate and will revert to the Participant or to the Participant's joint annuitant or beneficiary then receiving benefits.
- **B.** No Other Transfer of Distribution Allowed. The distribution payable to or on behalf of the Alternate Payee may not be devised, bequeathed, assigned or otherwise transferred by the Alternate Payee or by the Alternate Payee's designated beneficiary.

5. APPROVAL BY TRS / EFFECTIVE DATE OF FLO / FUTURE AMENDMENTS

A. Approval by TRS. One of the parties must provide TRS with a certified copy of this FLO and TRS must approve the FLO for content before the FLO is effective. In the event TRS finds this FLO does not meet all requirements to be given effect, TRS shall provide a statement of the deficiencies to the parties to the FLO. Upon TRS's identification of any deficiency, it is the obligation of the parties to ensure that a FLO that meets all TRS requirements is submitted to and entered by this Court, and then

submitted to TRS. This Court retains jurisdiction to make any modifications necessary to ensure that the distribution of benefits required under this FLO is in compliance with all TRS requirements.

- **B.** Effective Date of FLO. This FLO will be effective the first day of the month following receipt and approval by TRS. The terms of the FLO will given effect at such time as any benefit or withdrawal, as described in Section 2, becomes payable to or on behalf of the Participant.
- **C. Future Amendments.** Except as provided in (D), this FLO may be modified or revoked only by subsequent order of this Court. This Court retains jurisdiction to make such modification or revocation.
- **D. Voluntary Renunciation by Alternate Payee.** The Alternate Payee may, prior to receiving any distribution under this FLO, renounce the Alternate Payee's right to receive any distribution under this FLO by making a voluntary, written renunciation, with notarization, and filing the renunciation with this Court. A renunciation must be made on a form provided by TRS and must constitute a full renunciation of all right and interest of the Alternate Payee to any distribution under this FLO; a renunciation may not otherwise modify or amend the terms of this FLO. A certified copy of the renunciation filed with this Court must be submitted to TRS and will be effective the first day of the month following receipt by TRS.
- E. Effect of Death of Participant Prior to Effective Date of FLO. If, at the time this FLO is submitted to TRS, the Participant is deceased and benefits are then payable to the Participant's beneficiary, TRS will not approve or give effect to this FLO. TRS will notify the Alternate Payee and the Participant's beneficiary of the submission of the FLO and the reason for disapproval. TRS will then only approve and give effect to a FLO entered by this Court as an adjudication of the respective rights and interests of the Alternate Payee and the Participant's joint annuitant or beneficiary, who must be the named parties on the FLO. The Alternate Payee will be responsible for obtaining the necessary court order.

6. <u>AUTHORIZATION TO DISCLOSE INFORMATION</u>

TRS may receive from and disclose to either or both the Participant and the Alternate Payee any information necessary and appropriate to give effect to this FLO.

7. REQUIREMENT TO UPDATE CONTACT / BENEFICIARY INFORMATION

The Alternate Payee will have the responsibility to maintain the Alternate Payee's current contact information with TRS and to ensure that a valid beneficiary designation is on file with TRS if the Alternate Payee is authorized to designate a beneficiary.

8. CONSTRUCTION IN CONFORMITY WITH APPLICABLE LAW

This FLO is intended to provide for a distribution of benefits to the Alternate Payee in conformity with all applicable laws, rules, and policies pertaining to the provision of benefits by TRS. It is not intended to provide additional rights or benefits to any party beyond those rights or benefits provided by TRS law. This FLO will be construed by TRS in such a manner as gives effect to all applicable statutes, rules, and policies, whether expressly referenced herein or not.

SO ORDERED this _	day of	, 20	
	DISTRICT COURT JUI	DGE	
Copies to:			
Attorney for Participant:			
Name:			
Firm:			
Address:			
Phone No.:			
Attorney for Alternate Pay	ee:		
Name:			
Firm:			
Address:			
Phone No.:			