



5 Must Do's BEFORE FILING FOR DIVORCE

1

WRITE DOWN ALL OF YOUR QUESTIONS

In order to determine what information, answers and resources you need, you must first determine what you know, what you don't know and what you need to know. This will help you organize your thoughts and fears. Break them down into categories if you can: finances, home, legal, children, emotional, lifestyle, etc. This can be a working list. Once you have a list, start researching which professionals can help you answer those questions. Ask friends of yours for referrals. There is no need to go this alone or go into it blindly.

2

GATHER DOCUMENTS

Whether choosing self-representation, mediation or attorney representation, you'll need several documents to save time (and money!) in the process to help prepare your case. Some of the essentials include (but not limited to) 3 years of tax returns, 3 months of bank, investment and retirement statements, pay stubs for you and your partner, life insurance policies, mortgage statement, loan/debt balance statements, appraisals for any property of value, and total monthly expenses. This helps create a picture of the marital assets & debts to develop a strategy.

3

SUPPORT SYSTEM

Divorce is overwhelming. A healthy, safe support system can do wonders. Be careful who you confide in, but don't isolate yourself. Maybe you find support through a podcast, in an online community, a local support group, a therapist, close inner-circle friends, or family. Self-care and grace for yourself is also important so give yourself space for that as well.

4

CONSULT WITH PROACTIVE PROFESSIONALS

An attorney does *not* need to be your first call. In fact, you may find that you can save time & money by consulting with professionals in advance about the questions on your list. Not all attorneys are well versed in all the options available to you regarding your mortgage options, 401K options, tax implications, etc. Rather than being billed for each email or minute asking them those questions, just to be told to consult with the other professional(s), start with those first. Such as a REALTOR®, a Certified Divorce Lending Professional, a Financial Analyst, a divorce coach or even a therapist.

5

LEGAL SUPPORT

Yes, you can DIY a divorce, but should you? It's advised that you at least retain counsel to review your situation to ensure the best terms for you. Some legal options available are mediation, collaborative divorce, and individual attorney representation. Consult with firms to understand if they have experience with your case to determine if they're a good fit for you. Understand that once you consult with a firm (or your spouse does), that firm cannot then represent the other party.

www.PeaceofMindDivorce.info

DISCLAIMER: The information provided is for educational purposes only and does not act as legal, financial or psychological advice. While the insights may have wide applicability, readers should consult with an attorney, CPA, financial advisor, therapist or coach in your state to obtain advice with respect to your particular issue and/or case.

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MY QUESTIONS

LEGAL QUESTIONS

PROFESSIONALS TO CONSIDER

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MY QUESTIONS

FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

PROFESSIONALS TO CONSIDER

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5 Must Do's BEFORE FILING FOR DIVORCE

MY QUESTIONS

HOME / REAL ESTATE QUESTIONS

PROFESSIONALS TO CONSIDER

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MY QUESTIONS

CHILD(REN) RELATED QUESTIONS

PROFESSIONALS TO CONSIDER

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5 Must Do's BEFORE FILING FOR DIVORCE

MY QUESTIONS

EMOTIONAL QUESTIONS

PROFESSIONALS TO CONSIDER

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5 Must Do's BEFORE FILING FOR DIVORCE

MY QUESTIONS

LIFESTYLE QUESTIONS

PROFESSIONALS TO CONSIDER

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