



No one plans for a divorce when they get married, but sometimes it happens.

MY EXPERIENCE?

With over 30 years of experience in family law, I have successfully handled a wide range of cases. I'm passionate about my work and committed to helping individuals and families through challenging times. I look forward to meeting with you to discuss your situation and explore how I can assist you.

WHAT IS COLLABORATIVE LAW?

- Working towards an agreement; this can lead to creative property and parent/child outcomes
- No court hearings, a judge doesn't order a standard outcome
- Use private meetings to discuss and settle your case; we can discuss sensitive issues that you might prefer not to air in the public arena of the courtroom
- Respectful and honest; transparent
- Each client's questions and concerns are respected and addressed in a reasonable and dignified atmosphere
- Not as adversarial as litigation, although each client's lawyer still advocates for their client
- Clients are more responsible for the outcome
- We all work together to meet the interests and goals of both clients
- Seek to understand other clients' interests and concerns
- Jointly hire other experts or professionals as needed
- Team approach with other professionals; mental health professional; financial professional
- More flexible with client's schedules

WHAT IS THE COST?

There are several ways to look at "cost."

- If the client is concerned about costs such as a damaged relationship with the other party, trauma to the children, loss of privacy, etc., the collaborative process is less costly.
- If the concern is the amount of professional fees, collaborative law probably is less expensive than litigation, especially litigation that involves formal discovery and contested hearings.
- Collaborative law is not bargain-basement.

WHAT ARE THE HOURLY RATES AND THE EXPECTED TOTAL COST?

- Our current hourly rate is \$525; Paralegal is \$200
- Minimum retainer is \$6,000; this is not the final cost – just an initial retainer
- The average overall cost for a Collaborative law case is usually between \$20,000 and \$50,000 depending on the complexity of the case
- Invoices are issued every two weeks and replenishment back to minimum retainer is expected until the completion of the case; any unused trust funds will be returned.