

Collaborative Divorce: How does it work?



If you are considering a collaborative divorce, it is important to understand how the process works so you can make an informed decision whether or not it is right for you and your spouse. By understanding the steps involved, you can be prepared to make the best out of the counsel you are provided while preparing yourself to work together.

First, each party hires his or her own attorney. Both parties and their attorneys sign an agreement that requires representation to withdraw if the divorce goes to court or litigation. This ensures that the professionals you have hired will continue to remain unbiased and committed to helping you and your partner come to an agreement.

It is important that you hire someone who has experience with and is trained in collaborative law. First, meet with your attorney privately, without your spouse and spouse's attorney. This is where you can let your attorney know your interests, concerns and expectations. You and your attorney should have discussed each important issue before meeting with your spouse and his or her attorney.



Next, you and your attorney will meet with your spouse and your spouse's attorney, and together you will decide if other professionals will join the team. Collaborative divorces can also include other professionals like child custody specialists, coaches, and accountants. Any party who is involved in this portion of the process must be neutral and committed to finding resolution. If the parties are finding it difficult to come to an agreement, a licensed mediator can also be brought to the negotiation. All members of the team will be committed to guiding the parties to the best resolution for the family.

Collaborative divorce can help you avoid the stress of litigation. Most importantly, it allows the parties to work together to reach a solution that is best for everyone involved. Contact the Law Offices of Julia Brungess to learn more about the collaborative divorce process and whether it is right for you.