

CHECKLIST OF BASIC DECISIONS TO BE ADDRESSED IN DIVORCE

This is a partial list of the most common issues to be resolved during mediation

Parenting Decisions and Schedule

- decision-making (medical, educational, activities, religious, etc.)
- parenting schedule (regular schedule, holidays, school vacations, summer, etc.)
- residency/re-location
- information sharing/communication

Responsibility for Debts

Identification and Division of Property

- bank accounts
- stock and other investments
- cash value of life insurance policy
- stock options/restricted stock
- retirement (IRA, Pensions, 401(k), 403(b) Deferred Compensation, Annuity, etc.)
- business interests/intangible assets
- household furnishings, artwork, collections, etc.
- automobiles, boats, etc.
- timeshares

Marital Residence

- sale
- buyout
- trade-off
- continued joint occupancy
- other real property (investment property, land, vacation home)

Child Support

- basic payment
- shared expenses above basic payment
- child care expenses (summer camp)
- educational expenses (private school, extracurricular activities, college)
- dependency exemptions/child tax credits
- future changes
- adjustment when maintenance ends

Maintenance/Spousal Support

- amount
- duration
- effect of remarriage/cohabitation or other factors
- future changes
- tax consequences

Medical Insurance

- who provides basic coverage
- cost of premium
- un-reimbursed medical expenses for children
- loss of coverage following divorce

Life Insurance

- securing support obligation

Income Taxes

- responsibility for past returns
- filing for current tax year/deductions