

Getting Attorney-Ready

Action Steps

Divorce can be difficult. Being proactive rather than reactive will help you make better decisions for your future...and your future is what matters! Listed below are important actions to take to be divorce-ready.

During your divorce a Financial Affidavit (FA) will be required. A sample FA is included in this workbook. An FA is a legal document used to determine the income, assets, liabilities, and expenses of each party, including any expenses for minor children. At first glance, the FA can seem overwhelming. The worksheets in this booklet will assist you in preparing not only for the FA but they will also give you valuable information regarding your financial situation currently and post-divorce.

As you go take these steps forward, it is okay to take breaks as you need them, skip items and go back to them later, and put “?” next to items you may not have answers for! The goal in working through this workbook is to empower you.

1. Get support (family, friends, therapist, coach, financial advisor) and create your contact list
2. Write your personal story.
3. Define your priorities (what is most important now and on the “other” side?)
4. Get access to cash while going through the divorce process.
5. Gather Documents / Information listed on “Divorce Information Checklist”
6. Personal / Legal information
7. Financial documents
8. House / Automobile / Boat documents
9. Meet with Financial Advisor (CDFA) to review finances, Financial Affidavit (FA), and define scenarios to be considered.
10. Review parenting plan sample to understand the decision topics that will surface.
11. Complete the “Children – Timeline of Events” worksheet.
12. Create high level budget for your future.
13. Identify your process for getting divorced (cooperative, collaborative, mediation, litigation).
14. Interview attorneys (choose based on your situation and divorce process).