

## FAQs - Getting Started

What do I need to bring to my first appointment with my lawyer?

We recommend that you bring with you a list of any questions that you may have with respect to your specific situation. We also suggest that you bring any information you may have regarding your income, assets and liabilities and the income, assets and liabilities of your spouse.

What can I do to help with my case?

It would be helpful for you to provide organized copies of your records regarding income tax returns, bank statements and other financial records. It would also be useful for you to work on a realistic monthly budget of expenses. You might find it beneficial to keep a record of communications with regarding some of the contested issues, including any issues relating to the children

How much will my Divorce cost?

This is a difficult question to answer. If you and your spouse are in agreement with all or most issues, your Divorce can likely be completed in a timely, cost- efficient manner. However, if all or most of the issues between you and your spouse are in dispute, it may be more complicated and time consuming to finalize your Divorce.

Can I get my spouse to pay my legal fees?

Normally, each spouse has to pay the costs of their own lawyer. In some circumstances, your spouse may have to pay your legal fees. This can occur by Agreement. Another way this might occur is if you are successful in any Court application. If you succeed in Court, the Court has the discretion to award costs against the other spouse. However, the costs awarded by the Court usually do not fully reimburse you for the legal fees spent in going to Court.

What if I don't show up for Court?

If you don't attend Court when required to do so, an Order can be made in your absence. If you learn that an Order was made when you were not in Court, you should immediately contact our office to find out if anything can be done.