

What Should I expect From My Initial Meeting With a Divorce Lawyer?

If you are coming to see me or any other divorce attorney, you are looking to change something in you marital relationship.

When we first meet, I know nothing about you or your situation. You know the facts, the figures, the vices, the problems, and the issues. You also have an idea about what you want. You will have to educate me.

So, what should you expect from our meeting?

Expect to talk. Expect to answer questions. Expect to have your questions answered. Expect to discuss your concerns, desires, needs and wants. Expect to leave the meeting feeling better informed.

What is going on? Is your spouse transferring assets? Engaging in abusive behavior? Attempting to relocate with your children? Or is the relationship just over and it is time to move on?

While it is my job to develop strategies for you to attain your goals, you need to provide me with the ammunition to do my job. I have to gather the relevant facts, both favorable and unfavorable. It is up to you to tell me everything.

Speak with candor. Everything we discuss is protected by the attorney-client privilege.

It's important for me to get to know you as a person and learn as much as possible about your legal and financial situation so I can best advise you.

During our first meeting, you will talk and I will probe. Then, armed with the facts, we can discuss the applicable law, the issues and develop strategies to apply the law to attain your goals.

It would be helpful if you came to the meeting with:

- **A list of any questions and concerns you have;**
- **Any legal documents you received in connection with any past or present legal actions between you and your spouse;**
- **Any agreements between you or your spouse (i.e. a prenuptial agreement or post-nuptial agreement)**
- **Information relating to your children, together with any concerns you have about their health education, welfare or special needs.**
- **Copies of your income tax returns for the last three years.**
- **Records reflecting your assets, liabilities and income.**
- **Information about any other issues including police reports of domestic violence.**
-

Are you ready for your consultation?

