

### **How is spousal support determined?**

Unlike child support, there is no specific calculation for spousal support. Ohio Revised Code §3105.18 sets forth fourteen (14) factors to be considered by the Court in determining whether spousal support is appropriate and reasonable and in determining the amount and length of the support award. The factors are the following:

- The income of each party (from all sources);
- The earning ability of each party;
- The age and physical, mental and emotional condition of each party;
- The retirement benefits of each party;
- The length of the parties' marriage;
- The ability, or lack thereof, of a party to seek employment because they will be the custodian of a minor child of the parties' marriage;
- The standard of living established during the marriage;
- The education of each party;
- The assets and liabilities of each party;
- The contribution of each party to the education, training and/or earning ability of the other;
- The time and expense necessary for the spouse who is seeking support to acquire education, training or job experience necessary to allow them to obtain employment;
- The tax consequences for each party of an award of spousal support;
- The lost income production capacity of either party that resulted from the parties' marital responsibilities; and
- Any other factor the court deems relevant and equitable.