

# Marriage Separation Checklist

## Information to Gather:

- Full names of parties
- Date and place of marriage
- Social Security Numbers of family members
- Names and dates of birth of children
- Any health and dental insurance information
- Pets (papers proving ownership, veterinary records, etc.)

## Discuss the Following:

### Children

- Legal and/or physical custody of children
- Access to Children by parent and other relatives
- Notification of Illness and Other Events
- Religion/Religious Training
- Child support and amount
- Establishing payments
- Child care costs
- Cost of activities
- Tax deductions

### Alimony

- Waiver of future alimony
- Amount of alimony

### Taxes

- Filing taxes
- Cooperation if joint filing
- Use and reporting of available deductions
- Division of refund or liability

### Assets and Debts

- Division of property and assets
- Types of debt including loans, medical bills, credit cards, and others
- Use and possession of home by both parties
- Inventory of assets and debts
- Allocation of responsibility for debts, including debts incurred after separation

## Get Copies of Important Documents

If you don't have the original, make sure you at least have copies of the following documents:

### Assets and Liabilities

- Tax returns
- Credit card information and statements
- Mortgage for home as well as property description and form of ownership
- Checking and savings account statements
- Car titles and loan documents
- Deeds to other property as well as the property addresses and form of ownership

### Estate Planning

- Wills and/or power of attorney
- Retirement plan statements
- Life insurance policies

### Other

- Marriage certificate