

Road Map to Resolution Using Collaborative Law Process (Children)

1. Understanding and Agreeing to the Process
 - A. Reviewing and signing the Collaborative Agreement
 - B. Reviewing and agreeing to the ground rules
 - C. Discussing and setting up additional protocols or ground rules

2. Discussing Interests and Goals
 - A. Preparing for discussing of Interest and Goals
 1. Reviewing summary information
 2. Reading material
 3. Preparing with each collaborative lawyer
 4. Determining time and place
 - B. Meeting to discuss interest and goals – at first four-way meeting

3. Dealing with Interim Issues
 - A. Temporary Parenting Issues
 1. Sharing of parenting time
 2. Sharing of parental responsibilities
 - B. Temporary Financial Issues
 1. Cash flow
 - a. Expenses
 - b. Income
 2. Status quo
 - a. Limitations on spending
 - b. Management of assets
 - c. Mutual injunctions
 - C. Temporary Housing Issues
 1. Use and access to residences
 2. Moving and set up expenses
 - D. Temporary use of personal property, furniture, furnishings, etc.

4. Gathering Information
 - A. Deciding which “Documents We May Need” are requested
 - B. Preparing initial lists or spreadsheets of assets and liabilities
 - C. Providing and review certain basic financial information
 - D. Exchanging/completing draft(s) of Sworn Inventories and Appraisements
 - E. Reviewing underlying documents on Inventory items
 - F. Reviewing additional requested financial information

- G. Reviewing Inventory or Spreadsheet to reach consensus and identify differences
 - 1. Work through differences
 - a. Gather additional information if needed
 - b. Reach compromises for settlement purposes

- 5. Generating Possible Resolutions
 - A. Preparing for presenting possible resolutions
 - 1. Looking at summary of information gathered, especially Inventories and Spreadsheets
 - 2. Preparing with one's own collaborative lawyer
 - 3. Determining time and place for discussion
 - B. Brainstorming possible resolutions (as many options and alternatives as can be creatively generated) – Anything goes!

- 6. Reaching Agreement
 - A. Beginning to analyze the “brainstorming possible resolutions” in the context of each party's interests and goals
 - B. Evaluate the consequences of choosing the various possible resolutions
 - C. Eliminate resolution ideas which do not sufficiently meet important goals of either party
 - D. Narrow the resolution ideas to those which meet the most of both parties' interests
 - E. **Finalize the agreement** to yield the best possible outcome with the lawyers' input as to legal consideration.