

HOW TO BE SURE YOU HIRE THE RIGHT DIVORCE LAWYER

Ask these 8 questions before you hire anyone to handle your divorce/separation.

	ROSEN DIVORCE	OTHER FIRMS
<p>1. Do you concentrate on divorce law? Family Law issues are complex. You want an attorney who limits their practice to divorce law, someone who will recognize the issues in your case, know the recent changes in the law and be sensitive to the difficult process you're going through ...not a dabbler who deals with a traffic case in the morning, a will over lunch, a landlord-tenant dispute in the afternoon and squeezes your case somewhere in the middle.</p>	<p>Exclusively practice Divorce Law, including related issues such as custody, property distribution, alimony & child support.</p>	
<p>2. What are your credentials in this field of expertise? You want a Board Certified Family Law Specialist on your team and attorneys who are knowledgeable about state and federal laws in custody, tax, child support, insurance, property rights, and retirement plans.</p>	<p>Board Certified Family Law Specialists involved in all cases. Family Law experts who regularly provide testimony and lecture to North Carolina General Assembly, North Carolina judges, American Bar Association & numerous law schools.</p>	
<p>3. Are you trained in alternative forms of dispute resolution? More than 90% of divorces are resolved, by agreement, without ever going to court. A No Court Divorce can save you significantly in time, money and heartache. Lawyers trained in other forms of divorce resolution help you maintain control of the process, retain your dignity and provide a chance to be heard.</p>	<p>All Rosen attorneys are trained in mediation, Collaborative Divorce, and other forms of alternative dispute resolution.</p>	
<p>4. Can you tell me upfront how much this is going to cost me and will you guarantee that price? Be sure you know in advance what your divorce will cost. If an attorney cannot pin down fees for representing your interests, look for a lawyer with the experience and knowledge to advise you properly. If you choose to work with a firm that charges by the hour, get them to tell you how many hours it will take and get it in writing.</p>	<p>Yes, you are quoted a guaranteed fixed fee on day one. No extra charges for phone calls, faxes, photocopies or postage. No hourly billing with unexpected additional fees.</p>	
<p>5. What do I get for that price? Make sure this includes all services necessary for resolving your case (see client needs assessment) or get those costs confirmed in advance in order to make an accurate cost comparison.</p>	<p>All services, including conferences, obtaining information from you and your spouse concerning your assets, liabilities, income and expenses, and making recommendations concerning property division and support; settlement negotiations with your spouse's attorney; the preparation or review of a separation agreement and property settlement; and — if litigation is anticipated — all litigation documents, discovery, trial preparation, settlement negotiations and trials.</p>	
<p>6. After the initial consultation, who do I deal with on my case...my attorney or a paralegal or secretary? At \$250+ per hour, who do you think you should deal with? The expert, the decision maker, the person who plays the key role in your case? Or an assistant?</p>	<p>You always deal with your attorney. In fact, you have a team of attorneys who are knowledgeable about your case and available to you via telephone and email as often as you wish to communicate (since there's no "meter running", you don't have to worry about contacting your attorney with any question or new information).</p>	
<p>7. How many cases do your attorneys handle at one time? You want someone who has the time to give you the attention you need and keep up with current developments in divorce law. Most divorce lawyers handle 30-105 files at one time.</p>	<p>We limit each attorney's case load to 15-25 clients at one time.</p>	
<p>8. What kinds of systems/technology do you have set up to keep me informed about my case and make this process as hassle-free as possible for me?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24/7 access to your file with client extranet • E-mail communication with your attorney • Web conferences so you can review documents with your attorney • Sophisticated phone system tracks down your lawyer & instantly conferences in other experts • Laptops for every lawyer so they can deal with your case from any location • TV studio for trial rehearsals 	