



Initial Consultation Questions

- ? **How do you bill?** What is your hourly rate? How do you handle phone calls and emails? What constitutes an hour of meeting time? What is your retainer? How will you account for how the retainer will be used? If the entire retainer is not used, how long will it take before I get the remainder back from you?

- ? **Will I be working with you** or will junior partners or others be handling part of my case? If so, how will the billing for their time be handled? Will it be at a reduced rate? Will I have to pay the hourly rate for both of you?

- ? **Do you usually work with women or men?**

- ? **Are you a litigator, negotiator or mediator?** What percentage of your cases actually go to court and how many settle?

- ? **Do you specialize in Child Custody? Spousal Support? Spousal/child abuse/battery, etc, cases?** (This is important if you have a particular issue in your situation that will require special expertise.)

- ? **When I call, how long will it usually take for you to get back to me?** 6 hours? 24 hours? 2 days?

- ? **Do you have time** to take on another case right now?

- ? **How long will a divorce process take for a situation like mine?**

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