

ASSISTING SPOUSES TO COVER ALL BASES

The following checklist can be helpful to clients facing divorce as a guide to the decisions that need to be made in the settlement process.

CHILDREN'S DECISIONS

Parenting Options

Sole custody and decision making
by one parent

Joint decision-making but residence
primarily with one parent

Split residence and decision-making

Which decisions need mutual
consent or discussion?

Geographic Restrictions

Foreign travel

Relocation with the children

Access or Parenting Time

Weekdays

Weekends
holidays and long
weekends

School recesses
Summer vacations

Birthdays- parents'
and children's

Other occasions

Telephone calls

Notice of changes

Expenses of missed times

Access to Records

Doctors, dentists, etc.

Schools and teachers

Grand-parenting Time

Disaster Planning

Notification of:

Addresses and phone numbers

Illnesses and accident

Children's whereabouts

SUPPORT DECISIONS

Child Support

Amount
Date of payment
Cost of living adjustments
Amount of reduction on emancipation of one child

Definition of Emancipation

Age
College
Marriage
Living away from home
Employment

Life Insurance

Amount
Cost of living adjustment
Type
Beneficiary
Trustee for children

Health Insurance/ COBRA Rights

Extra expenses

College or private school tuition
Child care costs
Summer camp/ other activities
Extracurricular activities

Medical

Insurance coverage
Procedures for claims
Filing and reimbursement
Payment for uncovered expenses
Decisions on elective procedures, including orthodontia
Dental, prescription eyeglasses, psychotherapy, etc.

Spouse Maintenance

(Alimony)

Amount
Cost of living adjustment
Time of payment
Duration