

Talking Points on Collaborative:

- Top reasons why clients choose Collaborative:
 - A strong desire to avoid Court for financial, health, emotional or personal reasons
 - A desire to set their own pace of the divorce, leaving time for processing options and adjusting to various changes
 - An interest in utilizing shared/neutral experts to help minimize costs
 - A desire to improve communication between the parents to ease co-parenting and reduce the risk of legal proceedings in the future
 - To be able to problem-solve with a team in a safe environment, without threats
 - To focus on the family's interests and needs as a whole, using experts appropriate for the issues at hand
 - To come up with creative solutions that are individualized to their own family
 - To engage in a private, confidential process
 - To be in control of the outcome and avoid having someone else make these important decisions
 - To focus on the needs of the children and see these needs as a focus throughout the divorce process
 - To be in a process in which all needed information is voluntarily shared so that informed choices can be made
- Main talking points:
 - Collaborative divorce is an alternative approach to traditional combative divorce
 - Collaborative divorce focuses on helping the divorcing couple and their family move beyond the divorce and forward with their lives
 - Collaborative divorce makes getting through divorce a little less painful
 - Collaborative divorce engages divorcing couples outside of the courtroom in an open, supportive, lower-conflict divorce that finds shared solutions
 - Collaborative divorce is a team-based approach in which each party has a lawyer in the room and the option to call on trained financial and mental health professionals for additional support
 - Collaborative divorce promotes respectful dispute resolution and keeps parties in control of the process
 - Each party retains a lawyer and the parties and professionals pledge to resolve the issues outside of court which makes the process more open and less adversarial
 - Collaborative divorce allows the family to consider reference points outside of the law to include needs of everyone in the family, previous agreements, impact of decisions on future relationships, and their goals
 - Collaborative divorce is designed to help divorcing couples create a durable and sustainable agreement so that they can move forward in the most positive way possible and avoid future conflicts