

Initial Client Consultation Interview Form for Family Law Matters

The purpose of an initial consultation is for the attorney to advise you, the *prospective* client what, if anything, may be done for you, and what the minimum fee therefore will be. *The purpose is not to render a definitive legal opinion* as it may be impossible to fully assess a matter within the time frame allotted for a consultation or with the (information or documents) that you may be able to provide at the initial consultation.

One of three outcomes is possible following your consultation.

- A. You and the Attorney mutually agree to the terms of representation, or**
(After a separate document called an Agreement for Representation is signed, a copy will be provided to you.)
- B. The Attorney declines representation, or**
- C. You decide not to use the services of the Attorney.**

Note: The following questions will help us to understand the reason for your visit today. Your responses are protected by attorney/client privilege and will be held in strict confidence.

DATE: _____

Name _____
Last First Middle or Maiden

Address _____
Number Street City State Zip

Home Phone (____) _____ Cell# (____) _____

email _____ Date of Birth _____

Driver's License # _____ Social Security # last 4 _____

Are you known by any other names? [] Yes [] No

If yes what name(s) _____

(A fictitious name, a nickname, a former name,
your maiden name etc.)

How did you learn of our office? [] A friend [] Yellow Pages [] Bar Referral

[] Our Web Page [] Current/Former client [] PrePaid Legal [] Legal Match

[] Other Please list full name if referred by a person _____

Briefly explain what you may need advice about or assistance with today:

Are you seeking document preparation only? Yes ____ No ____ If yes then indicate the type of matter and what documents you need?

Are there other parties involved? (Examples: a friend, an employer, a neighbor, signor of a contract, etc. This should include people or parties on either side of your issue)

Party _____ Relationship _____

Party _____ Relationship _____

Party _____ Relationship _____

On the lines below, list the documents (papers) that you think may help us to understand the issues.

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

(NOTE: Any documents you supply that we determine are important to your matter will be photocopied, with your permission, and your originals returned to you at the conclusion of the initial interview.)

Ideally, if things turn out precisely the way you want, what would the outcome be?

Knowing that there are no guarantees, what can you accept?

Please classify your urgency in concluding this matter? (Check One)

Critical – Personal safety or continuation of business depends on it.

Very important – severe hardship, personal or financial inconvenience if matter is not resolved quickly.

Important – Matter interferes with business or personal financial stability.

Needs to be done, but no immediate hardship in the interim.

Just thought I'd see if it was worth pursuing, but I'm not counting on anything

Just wanted to know what my rights are? I'll then let you know after I think about it.

If the matter involves payment to you of money you feel you are owed, how long can you wait before not getting paid? _____

(Days, Weeks, Months, Years)

Are we the first attorneys you have consulted regarding this matter? Yes NO

If No - Why didn't you hire their services? _____

Have you ever been represented by an attorney before? Yes NO

If Yes - Please state the circumstances _____

How will you pay for your attorney's fees in this matter?

Check today Cash today Credit Card Pay Pal

Certified Funds other

Marital Status: Married Single Divorced Widowed Separated

Name and date of birth of spouse and date of marriage _____

Where are you employed? _____

May we contact you there? Yes No Phone No. (____) _____

Do you own a business? _____

If your mail is returned as undeliverable or your telephone service terminated, please provide the name of someone (friend or relative) you believe will always know how to contact you.

Name _____ Relationship _____

Address _____ Phone No. (____) _____

City _____ State & Zip _____

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY & Sign Below

Following your initial interview, if you agree to hire the Attorney, and the Attorney agrees to represent you, you will both sign an Agreement for Representation. The Agreement for Representation will set forth the terms and conditions of representation.

If the Attorney is willing to represent you and you decide not to sign an Agreement of Representation today, you are strongly urged to schedule a second appointment with the Attorney at the earliest possible time or to immediately consult with other legal counsel to protect your rights.

***NOTICE:* This office does not represent you with regard to the matters set forth by you herein in this information sheet or discussed during your consultation, unless and until, both you and the Attorney execute a written Agreement for Representation.**

If the Attorney does not agree to represent you, this includes not representing you with regard to the matter set forth by you on this information sheet, or any other matters you may discuss with the Attorney during your consultation. If your legal problem(s) involve a potential lawsuit, it is important that you realize a lawsuit must be filed within a certain period of time called a Statute of Limitations. Therefore, the Attorney strongly urges you to *immediately* consult with another attorney to protect your rights. The Attorney’s decision not to represent you should not be taken by you as an expression regarding the merits of your case.

Your signature acknowledges only that you received a copy of this completed information sheet and does not mean you have hired the Attorney.

SIGNATURE _____ Date ___/___/___

This portion to be completed by the Attorney

- Will represent (see New Case Memo and Agreement for Representation attached)
- Will investigate and report (Schedule a follow-up conference for ___ days)
- Representation declined - Letter of declination will be sent.
- Party will “think about it” and get back with us - No action to be taken and party was so informed.

