

How to Choose an Attorney

Gone are the days of just “knowing” who to hire for your divorce attorney. The days of opening up the phone book are also a thing of the past. So, here you are, at a cross roads in your life and completely clueless regarding the process, and trying to determine who will be the best attorney for you.

Friends and relatives may be able to give you the names of attorneys who have treated them well. Obviously, since you are reading this, the internet can also be a valuable resource.

Regardless of how you find the names of attorneys, you can follow these simple steps to find the attorney who will be the best for you.

First, arrange for an initial consultation with an attorney. You can contact an attorney to schedule an appointment.

A consultation is not the time when your legal problems are solved, but the time to assess your legal problems and to determine if the firm would represent you. At the initial consultation, the attorney will learn enough information about your situation to determine whether they can help you, or to refer you to someone else who may better assist you. You will want to provide the attorney with the most important details about your problem so they may help prioritize your legal needs.

You should ask the following questions during the initial consultation:

- How often does the attorney handle cases like yours?
- What is the attorney’s experience in this field?
- How long has the attorney been licensed?
- What area(s) of law does the attorney practice?
- Will one attorney be handling my case personally? If not, what kind of work will the attorney be doing and who will be doing the rest (i.e., paralegals, associates, etc.)?
- How will the attorney keep me informed as the case progresses?
- How available is the attorney for meetings and phone calls? You want to find out if you can meet or talk on the phone with your attorney or the person handling your case at convenient times.
- How quickly are phone calls returned?
- What are the possible outcomes in cases such as this?
- How long does the attorney expect this matter to take?
- Does the attorney recommend mediation?
- What steps are involved in these matters?
- How does the attorney handle fees including:
 1. the charges
 2. the services that are included

3. how extra fees will be assessed
4. how you will be billed
5. how often you will receive a bill?

After the initial consultation, ask yourself:

- Did the attorney seem professional and organized?
- Am I comfortable talking with the attorney?

Some additional things you should do during the consultation:

- Give clear answers to the attorney's questions; the attorney knows which questions to ask to narrow your legal issues and help you.
- Tell the truth even if you think some details may hurt your case.
- Do not exaggerate the facts or details.

If you spend the time to follow these suggestions during your initial consultation with an attorney, you are more likely to find the best attorney for you.

Setzer Law Firm PLLC, practices law in **Tarrant, Denton, Dallas, Wise and Parker counties in Texas**. Our firm is solely dedicated to the practice of family law including:

- **Divorce**
- **Marital Agreements**
- **Custody**
- **Child Support**
- **Property division**
- **Mediation**
- **Adoptions**
- **Grandparent rights**
- **Paternity**
- **Collaborative Law**
- **Wills**
- **Probate**
- **Guardianships for persons with special needs**

Setzer Law Firm PLLC, assists clients from the following cities:

Fort Worth, Keller, Colleyville, Southlake, Trophy Club, Denton, Flower Mound, Lewisville, Grapevine, Decatur, Dallas, Irving, Arlington, Coppell, Hurst, Euless, Watauga, & North Richland Hills