



JULIA BANCROFT, PC

FAMILY LAW

Reviewing The Uncontested Divorce Process:

The following is a simplified summary of the uncontested divorce process.

Figures 1-5 present a flow chart depicting the process graphically.

1. Starting the Divorce
 - a. Prepare your Original Petition for Divorce
 - b. File your Petition with the District Clerk's Office.
 - c. Give your spouse legal notice of the divorce, by using either:
 - i. Service of Citation; or
 - ii. Waiver of Citation; or
 - iii. Service by Publication or Posting
2. Responding to the Divorce
 - a. Your spouse may file an Answer
 - b. Your spouse may file other court documents or request court hearings
3. Waiting Period
 - a. Wait the mandatory 60 days after your Petition is filed
 - b. A Temporary Hearing and/or Temporary orders may occur during this time
 - c. Negotiation and/or Mediation may occur during this time
 - d. The court may require parenting classes if children are involved in the divorce
4. Finalizing Your Divorce
 - a. Prepare your Final Decree of Divorce
 - b. Schedule your divorce for a final hearing, either
 - i. On the uncontested court docket
 1. If you and your spouse have reached an agreement, or
 2. If your spouse has not filed an Answer or otherwise made a court appearance in the divorce
 - ii. On the contested court docket
 1. If you do not have an agreement and your spouse has filed an Answer or made a court appearance.
 2. Give your spouse written notice of the date, time and location of the trial (contested court hearing) date.
 - c. Finalize your divorce in the presence of the Judge at the court hearing.
 - d. If your divorce includes child support, set up the child support account and issue the child support withholding order pursuant to the directions of your local district clerk's office.
 - e. Make sure either you or the court provides a copy of the Court Orders to your ex-spouse.