

Questions for Lawyer Interviews:

- **Situation:** Name of spouse, birthdate(s), wedding date (length of marriage), your annual income, your total assets (roughly) including home owned and how titled, your work status and spouse's work status during marriage; dob of children
- What is your **current hourly rate**?
- What amount of **retainer** does your firm require?
- Will **associates** work on my case and **what are their rates**?
- How many billable hours does a typical divorce take that is not litigated?
- How many of your cases are litigated in court versus those settled without formal discovery or with just mediation?
- **What is needed for mediation/negotiation to work successfully**, in your opinion, and do you think it could work in my case as you understand it now.
- What agreements should I have in place before I consider moving out?
- **Financial matters:** If I provide you with comprehensive financial information, can you tell me what a property division and/or spousal support is likely to look like in our situation or should I hire a financial neutral or expert? We also need someone to revise the guardianship for our adult son, likely.
- **How can I keep costs down?** I have a divorce coach and will take my non-legal issues to her, including how I communicate with my wife about and during the divorce. I know she will also help me with any chaos and overwhelm I experience as well as a parenting plan. What else can I do to help you streamline the legal process for my divorce