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Divorce doesn’t have to be a drawn-out, expensive battle. A simple or uncontested divorce could be the right solution for men in Houston looking for a faster and more affordable process. Understanding how long it takes, how much it costs, and what the process involves is essential if you’re hoping to save both time and money. What Is a Simple Divorce in Texas? A simple divorce, also known as an uncontested divorce, occurs when both parties agree on key issues, including property division, child custody, and support. Without disputes to resolve, the process becomes much quicker and less expensive compared to contested divorces, where disagreements lead to prolonged court battles. This type of divorce can be the easiest path forward for men with a clear plan with their spouses. It minimizes the emotional toll and cuts down on legal fees and court costs. How Long Does a Simple Divorce Take in Texas? The timeline for a simple divorce in Texas can vary, but the process is generally much faster than a contested divorce. The state requires a 60-day waiting period from the date the divorce petition is filed. This means that even under the best circumstances, a divorce cannot be finalized until at least 60 days have passed. However, the waiting period doesn’t mean your divorce will take only 60 days. Additional time may be required to prepare the necessary paperwork, serve your spouse, and have a judge sign off on the final decree. If everything is in order and there are no additional complications, you could have your divorce finalized within 2 to 3 months. How Much Does a Simple Divorce Cost in Texas? The cost of a simple divorce in Texas depends on several factors, including whether you hire an attorney and any additional court fees. While uncontested divorces tend to be less expensive than contested divorces, costs can still vary. Filing fees are typically the main expense and potential costs for serving divorce papers and preparing documents. If both parties agree, the need for expensive legal disputes is eliminated, saving you money. Hiring an attorney for a simple divorce ensures all legal documents are properly prepared, helping avoid delays and additional expenses. The Process of a Simple Uncontested Divorce Here’s a step-by-step look at how a simple divorce works in Houston: Filing the Petition: The first step is for one spouse to file a petition for divorce with the court. This document outlines the basic facts of the marriage and states the grounds for divorce. Serving the Spouse: The petition must be served to the other spouse after filing. In an uncontested divorce, the spouse can often sign a waiver, avoiding formal service. Waiting Period: Texas law requires a 60-day waiting period before the divorce can be finalized. You and your spouse can ensure all divorce terms are in order during this time. Finalizing the Divorce: Once the waiting period ends, the judge can sign the divorce decree. If everything has been agreed upon, you may not even need to appear in court. If you and your spouse are willing to cooperate, this straightforward process can save you significant time and money. Potential Barriers to a Simple Divorce While a simple divorce offers many benefits, there are a few factors that could complicate the process and make it less straightforward than expected: Disagreements on Key Issues: Even in what appears to be an uncontested divorce, disagreements can arise over child custody, spousal support, or division of assets. If you and your spouse cannot reach an agreement on these matters, the divorce may shift to a contested one, increasing both time and cost. Complex Financial Situations: If you and your spouse have complicated financial assets such as business interests, retirement accounts, or significant property, dividing these assets can be more challenging. Even if the divorce starts as uncontested, disputes over financial matters can slow down the process. Residency Requirements: To file for divorce in Texas, one spouse must have lived in the state for at least six months and in the county where the divorce is filed for at least 90 days. The divorce could be delayed if either party doesn’t meet these residency requirements. Child-Related Issues: If you have children, issues related to custody, visitation, and child support must be clearly agreed upon. Even minor disagreements about these issues can complicate what was intended to be a simple divorce. Understanding these potential barriers can help you better prepare for the process and avoid surprises that could turn a simple divorce into a more complex one. FAQ: Simple Divorce in Houston, Texas How can I get a quick divorce in Texas? A quick divorce in Texas usually involves filing for an uncontested divorce where both parties agree on all major issues. The state requires a 60-day waiting period from the time the divorce is filed, so the absolute fastest timeline is typically about two to three months. Hiring an attorney is crucial to ensure paperwork is filed correctly and to avoid delays that could prolong the process. What is the cheapest and easiest way to get a divorce in Texas? The cheapest and easiest divorce in Texas is an uncontested divorce, in which both spouses agree on all terms, such as property division, child custody, and spousal support. Even in these cases, hiring an attorney is recommended to ensure all legal requirements are met and avoid potential issues arising from incorrect or incomplete paperwork. How much does it cost to file for divorce in Houston, Texas? Filing fees in Houston vary depending on the county, but they are typically a few hundred dollars. Additional costs may arise for serving papers, mediation, and attorney fees. While it’s possible to handle a divorce without a lawyer, hiring one can prevent costly mistakes and delays. Can you get a divorce in Texas without going to court? In some cases, yes. If you and your spouse agree on all terms of the divorce and there are no contested issues, the divorce may be finalized without a court appearance. However, a judge will still need to approve the final divorce decree. Having an attorney ensures everything is handled correctly to avoid unnecessary court visits. Is online divorce in Texas legit? While some online services claim to offer “do-it-yourself” divorces, they often lack the expertise needed to navigate Texas family law. Using an attorney ensures that all paperwork is legally sound and your rights are fully protected. Incomplete or incorrect filings from online services can lead to delays or even legal complications down the road. What is the first step in filing for divorce in Texas? The first step is to file an original petition for divorce in the appropriate Texas county where you or your spouse resides. It’s highly advisable to consult an attorney before filing to ensure you meet all legal requirements and understand the next steps in the process. How to get a free divorce in Texas? While some individuals may qualify for a fee waiver for court costs based on financial need, it’s rare to complete the divorce process without any costs. Even if you qualify for waived court fees, legal advice is essential to avoid costly errors. If budget is a concern, many attorneys offer payment plans for their services. Can you draw up your own divorce papers in Texas? Yes, you can draw up your divorce papers, but it’s not recommended unless you have a very simple case and are well-versed in Texas family law. Mistakes in legal documents can lead to delays, higher costs, or even a rejection of your case. A divorce attorney can help draft legally sound documents that comply with all Texas laws. How much is a divorce in Texas if both parties agree? If both parties agree on all terms, the cost of the divorce will generally be lower than a contested divorce. However, costs vary depending on whether you hire an attorney, court filing fees, and other expenses. An attorney can save money by ensuring the process is done right first. How long does a divorce take in Houston? A simple, uncontested divorce in Houston can take as little as 60 days, the minimum waiting period in Texas. However, if paperwork is incomplete or disputes arise, the process could take longer. Hiring an attorney can help avoid delays and keep the process on track. Can I date while separated before divorce near Houston, TX? While there are no laws in Texas that prohibit dating while separated, it’s generally not advisable, especially if there are child custody or spousal support issues. Dating during separation can complicate matters and give your spouse legal leverage during divorce proceedings. Consulting an attorney can clarify what is in your best interest. Can you get a divorce without your spouse’s signature in Texas? Yes, you can get a divorce without your spouse’s signature in Texas, but it may take longer. You can proceed with a default judgment if your spouse refuses to sign or respond to the divorce petition. This process typically involves additional steps and court appearances, making it all the more important to have an attorney guide you. Do you have to be separated before divorce in Texas? Texas does not require a legal separation before filing for divorce. You can file for divorce if you meet the residency requirements (living in Texas for six months and in the filing county for 90 days). However, separation can sometimes make the process smoother, particularly in uncontested cases. How long does a divorce take if one party doesn’t agree in Texas? The process can take significantly longer if one spouse doesn’t agree to the divorce. A contested divorce involves disputes over property, child custody, or support, which can take several months or even years to resolve. Hiring an attorney is essential in these cases to protect your interests and navigate the court system. Can you file for divorce in Texas without going to court? While avoiding a court appearance is possible if both parties agree on all terms, a judge still needs to sign off on the divorce. An attorney can help ensure that all paperwork is properly submitted and can often help you avoid court appearances by managing the process on your behalf. What is the quickest divorce you can get in Texas? The quickest divorce in Texas is typically an uncontested divorce with no disputes. The minimum waiting period required by law is 60 days. To avoid delays beyond this, working with an attorney is recommended to ensure all documentation is completed correctly. Hiring a Simple Divorce Attorney in Houston While a simple divorce is faster and less costly than a contested one, having a skilled attorney is still beneficial. A good divorce lawyer will ensure all legal documentation is correctly prepared, making sure that nothing is overlooked. Even in an uncontested divorce, small mistakes in paperwork can lead to delays or additional costs. For men in Houston who are busy and don’t want to risk unnecessary delays, hiring an attorney provides peace of mind. An experienced divorce attorney can help you navigate the legal process efficiently, giving you more time to focus on your future. Ready for a Simple, Hassle-Free Divorce? Let Us Help At Longworth Law Firm, we understand that men often want to get through divorce as quickly and affordably as possible. Our team of experienced Houston attorneys helps with uncontested divorces so that your divorce is handled smoothly and efficiently from start to finish. Don’t waste time and money—schedule a consultation today at (832) 759-5100 and let us guide you through a simple divorce process that fits your needs. You’ve been paying child support for months, maybe even years, but now you’re wondering how to stop child support payments in Texas. Perhaps your child has turned 18 — or maybe you’ve got the sneaking suspicion that you aren’t your child’s biological father. Either way, chances are that you have questions. Can I cancel child support in Texas? Can you stop child support if both parents agree in Texas? If a father doesn’t pay child support does he get visitation? How does joint custody in Texas impact child support payments? At Thiessen Law Firm, our fathers’ rights attorneys know how stressful child support payments can be on your wallet, and how stressful it can be to try and stop unnecessary payments. That’s why we’ve created this resource including the main reasons why people stop paying child support and tips on how to stop child support payments when it’s time to do so. How long do you have to pay child support in Texas? When your child turns 18, can you terminate child support in Texas? The Texas child support laws are dictated by Texas Family Code Chapter 154, which states that parents are required to pay child support until the later of when: The child turns 18; or The child graduates from high school. If you’re wondering how to stop child support in Texas when a child turns 18, it will happen automatically if through the OAG, but otherwise you will need to file a motion to terminate child support in Texas with your attorney. How to stop child support payments If you want to terminate your child support you’ll need to file a motion to terminate child support if the children age out — or a child support modification in Texas under other circumstances — in the same court that established your original child support payments. Once a judge signs the petition, it can be forwarded to the Texas Attorney General’s office where both a stop payment can be issued and a withholding termination letter can be sent to your employer. If you’re nowhere near the deadline to stop child support payments, stay the course. The obligation to pay child support is often an honorable one and is in the best interest of the child. Keep up with your payments so that you never receive a child support warrant. Take a deeper dive: Learn about the best way to form a child support holiday schedule, resist hiding income to avoid child support, and inform yourself about child support when grandparents have custody. How do I cancel my child support payments in Texas if my child isn’t 18? Filing a modification to your child support or a motion to terminate child support in Texas for a child under 18 years old will only be accepted under a handful of circumstances. We detail a few reasons for termination and modification of child support payments below. Reasons for early termination or modification of child support payments in Texas Reason for termination: your child becomes emancipated. The court can decide that your child has become “emancipated,” meaning financially independent and self-supporting, and is thus no longer in need of child support before they reach the age of majority. Common examples of emancipation include the child getting married, joining the military, or leaving home. Reason for termination: your child dies. When a child passes away, you are no longer obligated to pay child support for that child. If there are other children in the family, you will need to petition for a Texas child support modification. Reason for modification: you have a medical crisis. In certain circumstances, when the person paying child support is suffering from a severe illness and/or nearing death, that individual may no longer be required to pay child support and can be relieved of their child support obligations. Reason for termination or modification: you discover that you’re not the child’s biological father. This one is incredibly tricky, and depends on the age of the child, when the information comes to light, and if you are adjudicated. If genetic testing proves that you are not a child’s biological father, you can petition to terminate your parent-child relationship and stop paying child support. You must file that petition within one year of learning that you are not the child’s biological father. How much back child support is a felony in Texas? How much child support can you owe before going to jail in Texas? Under Texas Penal Code 25.05, the title and chapter containing offenses against the family, a person is guilty of “criminal nonsupport” if they “intentionally or knowingly fail to provide support for their child younger than 18 years of age.” The other parent of your child can decide to take you to court for criminal nonsupport whenever they believe that you are intentionally not paying them. If you are convicted of criminal nonsupport you can expect to be charged with a State Jail Felony with an attached fine of up to $10,000 and six months to two years in a state jail. Additionally, the Texas Attorney General’s site actually publishes the names and photos of parents who owe more than $5,000 in back child support. If you believe that you don’t deserve to pay child support in Texas anymore, don’t just stop making payments. Instead, search for experienced and aggressive child support lawyers for fathers to fight for you and make sure that you’re getting a fair shake. Although you can face criminal charges for criminal nonsupport, you will generally not be charged with a crime for not making child support payments, but instead issued a capias by the family court for violation of the family law order. In this case you may be ordered to serve time as punishment, but it is not a criminal charge. Problems with your child support payments in Texas? Call Taly Thiessen at Thiessen Law Firm. Very few people consider why someone would want to know how to stop child support payments in Texas. Regardless of whether you lack proof that you are a child’s parent or simply need to decrease the amount of child support you currently pay to make ends meet, you will want a winning family law attorney by your side. At Thiessen Law Firm, we understand that every family’s and individual’s situation is unique and we will fight for your right to reduce or terminate child support in Texas. From questions on how to report a new job to child support in Texas to what to do when you receive a child support order, we are here to see you through it all. If you need the best family attorney Houston has to offer, you need to call Taly Thiessen of Thiessen Law Firm. Taly is an award-winning, battle-tested, and compassionate family lawyer in Houston. You can call Taly at (713) 864-9000 or contact us online today for a case evaluation. More Helpful Articles by Thiessen Law Firm: Contents [hide]Determinations of a child support obligation are determined in part by the child support guidelines of § 154.125(b) of the Texas Family Code. Simply put, the guidelines recommend child support payments be 20% of the obligor parent’s monthly net resources for one child, 25% for two children, and in increasing increments of 5% for up to 5 children. Tex. Fam. Code § 154.125(b).However, “[t]he duty to support a child is not limited to a parent’s ability to pay from current earnings but extends to his or her financial ability to pay from any and all sources that might be available,” Schaban-Maurer v. Maurer-Shaban, 238 S.W.3d 815, 826 (Tex. App.—Fort Worth 2007, no pet.). In particular, “[a] parent who is qualified to obtain gainful employment cannot evade his or her support obligation by voluntarily remaining unemployed or underemployed.” Id. Thus in situations where the obligor is intentionally unemployed or underemployed, § 154.066 of the Texas Family Code allows a trial court to apply the child support guidelines to the earning potential of the obligor.Until recently, there was a split among the courts of appeals over this statute. Some appellate courts have determined that this section requires a finding that the obligor’s intent was to avoid paying or to reduce child support obligation before the guidelines could be applied to earning potential. Other courts have only considered whether or not the obligor was voluntarily unemployed or underemployed. Compare In re Z.B.P., 109 S.W.3d 772, 783 (Tex. App.—Fort Worth 2003, no pet.) (holding “for a court to find that a parent is intentionally underemployed or unemployed under section 154.066, there must be evidence the parent reduced his income for the purpose of decreasing his child support payments”) with Pharo v. Trice, 711 S.W.2d 282 (Tex. App.—Dallas 1986, no writ) (not evaluating the obligor’s intentions but applying the guidelines to her earning potential because she chose to be unemployed). Earlier this year, the Supreme Court of Texas resolved this split in Iliff v. Iliff, No. 09-753 (Tex. April 15, 2011).The Supreme Court found that though many courts embraced the standard of In re Z.B.P.—requiring evidence of an intent to avoid child support payments before § 154.066 could be applied—the lower courts “provid[ed] little or no analysis of how the particular facts of the case indicate a parent’s intent to avoid child support.” Iliff, No. 09-0753 at 6. For example, in Schaban-Maurer, though the court stated that it required evidence of the obligor’s intent to avoid child support payments, the court only analyzed evidence of the father’s habits of sleeping late, watching television, and playing computer games and his general dislike of working before deciding that the father was intentionally unemployed and that the guidelines should be applied to the father’s earning potential. However, laziness is “not particularly indicative of a parent’s motive or intent to avoid child support obligations.” Iliff, No. 09-0753 at p. 6.In Iliff, the father was a chemical specialist and account manager and made $90,000 to $100,000 a year. Id. at p. 2. In January of 2006, he voluntary quit his job. Approximately 6 months later, the mother filed for divorce. The father had no steady employment during the divorce proceedings. He had sporadic work as a business consultant and tractor operator and earned $3,600-$4,800 a year during the pendency of the proceedings. The trial court determined that the father was intentionally unemployed or underemployed and applied § 154.066 of the Texas Family Code. The father argued that this statute could not be applied absent evidence of his intent to avoid child support payments. The Court disagreed.The Court looked at the language of the statute, which states “[i]f the actual income of the obligor is significantly less than what the obligor could earn because of intentional unemployment or underemployment, the court may apply the support guidelines to the earning potential of the obligor.” Tex. Fam. Code. § 154.066. Grammatically, the adjective “intentional” modifies the phrase “unemployment or underemployment” and cannot be interpreted to modify “reduction of child support,” not least of all because those words do not appear in the statute. Iliff, No. 09-0753 at p. 7-8. Additionally, “there is nothing in the statute requiring further proof of the motive or purpose behind the unemployment or underemployment,” and such a requirement could not be added by the courts. Id. at p. 8.The Court seemed to soften this blow by pointing out that § 154.066 “simply states that a trial court may apply the child support guidelines to the earning potential of the obligor”—and only when the obligor is making significantly less than he once did—and that such language “creates discretionary authority.” Id. at 9 (quoting Tex. Gov’t Code § 311.016(1)). It further reminds lower courts that “in child support decisions, the paramount guiding principle…should always be the best interest of the child.” Id. (internal quotation omitted). Courts should not so narrowly interpret § 154.066 and base child support on earning potential only because the obligor makes less than he once did. Id. Whether or not to apply § 154.066 must be a case-by-case determination. Id. at 10. Trial courts must keep in mind that merely receiving more child support itself is not always in the child’s best interest. See id. at 11. A trial court should consider the benefits that may come from the obligor’s career choice, e.g., a particular job may allow a parent to live closer to his family, one job may have greater flexibility or fewer hours and allow a parent to spend more time with his family, or one job may provide better health or education benefits to dependents. Id. Further, trial courts must also consider “a parent’s right to pursue his or her own happiness” and consider whether the parent is unemployed or underemployed to start their own business, to go into public service, to go back to school, or for another laudable reason. Id. at 10 and 12 (quoting In re E.A.S., 123 S.W.3d 565, 570 (Tex. App.—El Paso 2003, pet. denied)).Though Iliff eliminated the requirement to find evidence of an intention to avoid paying child support before the guidelines are applied to an obligor’s earning potential, this requirement was not being fulfilled even among courts that avowed this interpretation. Further, the result is not as harsh as it seems, as the Court tempered its holding with reminders to consider the positive results—for both the parent and child—that may accompany an obligor’s career choice. Child custody matters in Texas have always been complex but an experienced child custody lawyer can guide you through the process. In most cases, drug abuse or an illness is what makes the child custody case complicated. Our family law attorney understands the psychological or mental issues that often make child custody cases hard to resolve. Whether you are a mother, father or even a grandparent, a skilled child custody lawyer in Houston can fight for your rights and interests in a child custody case. How High-Conflict Custody Cases Are Resolved Custody Lawyers In My Area Parents with substance abuse problems or obsessive-compulsive disorder or bipolar disorder are often the ones that refuse to compromise in high-conflict custody cases. A child custody lawyer with years of experience can recognize these illnesses and help them get the support they need now and in the future. Your children will be safer if your ex-spouse receives the support they need. Your lawyer can also draft custody and visitation orders that consider the other parent’s condition. This means that if the other parent relapses, you won’t have to go to court for these orders to be modified. The Child’s Best Interest TX Child Custody Attorneys Texas judges only consider the child’s best interest when deciding custody cases. That means the court makes decisions based on factors such as: The ability of the parents to take care of the child, The current state of the relation between the child and the parents The physical and emotional needs of the child The stability of the home Your interests as a parent regarding custody are not that important in this situation. The judge will grant one parent primary custody meaning that that parent will be the custodial parent or the managing conservator. The other parent will have visitation rights and is called the noncustodial parent. Your child custody lawyer can explain what each situation means. What Is Sole Custody? Best Custody Lawyer In TX Sole custody or sole physical custody is only granted in situations where the other parent is dead, incarcerated, violent or abuses drugs. The court considers that it’s in the best interest of the child to have liberal access to both parents. That means that obtaining sole custody is very difficult. Child custody issues are often resolved in mediation or other informal settlement processes. But if the case goes to trial, it is up to the judge or jury to determine what is in the best interest of the child. Do You Have To Go To Court? Attorney Specializing In Child Custody Most of the time custody cases are contentious but that doesn’t mean that the parents cannot resolve issues amicably. Resolving issues amicably takes a shorter time and has a lower cost than going to trial. But when the parents refuse to compromise during custody negotiations, an experienced child custody lawyer can skillfully litigate high-conflict custody disputes. Relocating With Your Child How To Get A Lawyer For Child Custody In Texas Parents that want to move away due to unexpected circumstances may have to file a relocation case. When deciding, the judge will consider why you want to move, the distance between the child and the parents, the child’s relationship with the parents, and whether the move will be in the child’s best interest. Find Houston, Texas Child Custody Attorneys Nearby Houston Child Custody Lawyer Office The best way to reach us is via phone call at (832) 759-5100. Longworth Law Firm, P.C. – Divorce and Family Law Attorneys Houston, TX Office Longworth Law Firm, P.C. 440 Louisiana St, Suite 977 Houston, TX 77002 (832) 759-5100 Directions to our office Richmond, TX Office Longworth Law Firm, P.C. 2923 Rutersville College Lane Richmond, TX 77406 (281) 341-1766 Whether you need a Houston divorce attorney, a child support lawyer, or someone to review a pre-marital agreement anywhere in Texas, we are here to help. Divorce is always a difficult decision. One of the best ways to protect your long-term financial and emotional health is to involve a competent Texas family law attorney as early as possible in the divorce process. The Longworth Law Firm and Lead Attorney Daryl Longworth focus on Texas Family Law. We help clients facing divorce and other complicated family law issues in the Harris County and Fort Bend Family Courts. Our main office is conveniently located on Louisiana Street in the heart of Downtown Houston. However, we can generally conduct most of our client visits via telephone if that is more convenient. The Longworth Law Firm provides expert legal guidance and representation in family law. We handle cases involving divorce, child custody, and child support in Houston, Cypress, Sugar Land, Stafford, Richmond, Rosenberg, and Katy, Texas. We are one of Houston’s best-reviewed family lawyers. We excel in negotiation, mediation, arbitration, and trial. Our Houston, TX divorce attorneys use a hands-on approach to dealing with Texas family law. Your case will receive our direct attention. Houston Divorce Lawyer Cost & Fees Associated With Divorce. Texas Divorce Cost Many couples who want to file for divorce are often worried about how much it will cost to do that. The truth is … read more Calculating Child Support in Texas (2025): What You Need to Know Before You Pay or Receive a Dime Money is one of the biggest fights in any divorce or custody case, and child support is … read more Litigation vs. Mediation: Which Divorce Path Protects You Best? When most people think of divorce, they imagine courtrooms, attorneys arguing, and a judge making final decisions about who gets what. This traditional path—litigation—is what many … read more 5 Costly Property Division Mistakes Men Make in a Texas Divorce—And How to Avoid Them Divorce is tough, and property division in Texas can be one of the most frustrating and confusing parts of the … read more How Temporary Orders in Texas Divorce Impact Child Custody, Support, and Property Division. Going through a divorce can feel overwhelming. You’re already dealing with the emotional side of ending a marriage, but at the same … read more Contested vs. Uncontested Divorce in Texas: Key Differences, Costs, and What’s Best for You Going through a divorce is never easy, but understanding your options can help you take control of the process. In Texas, … read more How to Recognize When Your Ex is Manipulating Your Child and What You Can Do About It Co-parenting can be an emotional rollercoaster. But when you sense that your child is drifting away from you—and … read more International Child Custody, Property Division, and Legal Challenges in Texas Divorce Cases You’re in Texas, trying to move forward with your life, but your spouse is living in a different country. Maybe they’ve relocated for … read more What is considered an unfit home for a child? When it comes to determining whether a father is unfit for custody in Texas, the courts focus on one key question: Does the father’s behavior or … read more Fighting for Fatherhood: Overcoming Malicious Mother Syndrome in High-Conflict Divorces Divorce is never easy, but when it becomes a high-conflict situation, especially involving children, it can feel like you’re trapped in a nightmare. For many … read more A Father’s Guide to Child Custody Battles in Texas: Best Interest of the Child and Your Rights As a father going through a custody battle, it’s easy to feel like you’re up against the world. … read more Texas Uncontested Divorces: What You Really Need to Know Ready to get a divorce without the courtroom drama? An uncontested divorce in Texas is your ticket to a faster, easier split. We’re talking minimal hassle, … read more As a father, you may already be going through the emotional difficulty of a divorce. Still, when your child suddenly starts acting distant, angry, or even outright rejecting you, the pain can feel unbearable. If … read more Contested Divorce: A Step-by-Step Guide from Longworth Law Firm When your marriage reaches a point where divorce feels like the only option, the process can seem overwhelming, especially if you and your spouse can’t agree … read more Houston Simple Divorce Attorney Divorce doesn’t have to be a drawn-out, expensive battle. A simple or uncontested divorce could be the right solution for men in Houston looking for a faster and more affordable process. … read more If you need an experienced divorce lawyer in Houston, TX, Daryl F. Longworth is here to help. As the founder of The Longworth Law Firm, Daryl combines his background in law enforcement with extensive family law experience to provide compassionate and disciplined legal representation. A graduate of the University of Houston Law Center and a trained mediator, Daryl focuses on divorce, child custody, and child support cases. Daryl earned his Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Houston Law Center, where he also trained as a mediator. His extensive experience in family law began while working as a law clerk at Holmes, Diggs Eames, & Puhl, and later as an associate attorney at Fullenweider Wilhite. In 2011, he established The Longworth Law Firm, focusing primarily on divorce, child custody, and child support cases. Daryl’s approach is grounded in a strong commitment to his clients, and a high percentage of his practice comes from referrals—a testament to the trust and confidence he has earned. Whether you’re dealing with a challenging divorce, child custody battle, or a child support issue, Daryl F. Longworth and his team are ready to provide the experienced legal representation you need to achieve the best possible outcome. Serving clients in Houston, Richmond, Rosenberg, Sugar Land, Katy, and Cypress, Daryl is committed to meeting your needs with professionalism and care. His firm handles cases in both the Fort Bend and Harris County Family Courts, and he is also a certified ad litem, representing children in crisis. Much of his practice comes from referrals, reflecting the trust he has built with his clients. Let Daryl and his team guide you through your case and help you achieve the best possible outcome. Highly recommend! Mr. Longworth made the divorce process very smooth. He took care of everything efficiently. He was very professional and helpful with any questions I had. Brittany Wortman I had a great experience with Mr. Longworth. He assisted me in completing my uncontested divorce. Everything went great and Im a single woman (pro/con) thanks to him. He filed... read more the necessary paperwork in a timely fashion, kept me updated, and within about 2 weeks time had me with a court date and a celebration. His price was affordable, his receptionist is amazing, and he answers questions quickly. We all hope 4 forever, but its great to have someone on yourside when forever cant go beyond today. Thanks kindly and I definitely recommend himWish you guys the best if life takes u on this journey and remember you once loved your spouse so do what you can to be civil and respectful to one another Britbrat I highly recommend Daryl Longworth. Even though my situation was not complicated he made sure that everything was done quickly and professionally. He was always available to answer any questions... read more at any time, and I greatly appreciated that. A divorce is some thing that no one wants to go through and when you don’t know how to do anything in the legal system, it was so helpful when he would explain everything that needed to be done and how to do it. Don’t hesitate to hire him! sheila cook Daryl and his team are wonderful and we appreciate all that they have done for us. Jane Parker Daryl Longworth and his staff work with integrity and compassion to make every case feel like their own. Their ability to work diligently and competently allowed for a smooth process... read more from start to finish. I am extremely grateful to have worked with his team and would recommend them to anyone. Zach Schroeder The experience with Daryl Longworth and his staff, was amazing. Divorce is a very stressful situation, and even though mine wasn't too challenging, the situation was, and yet, Mr.... read more Longworth was able to get it done in less than 3 weeks. I honestly with that his practice area was much broader, because I would hire him for all of my legal needs. I really appreciate the style and manner and professionalism that Mr. Longworth and his staff showed me throughout. Thank you!! Brett Atwood One of the most important and difficult decisions you will ever face is deciding whether or not to end your marriage. It is critical to approach the question from a rational rather than an emotional standpoint. In many ways, it is a business decision that necessitates the consideration of numerous factors. After reviewing this list of questions, you may reconsider your course of action or be better prepared to proceed while working with your attorney. Many couples begin the divorce process by filing for legal separation. If you’re thinking about it, you should know that legal separation is not recognized in Texas. As a result, before making any major decisions regarding separation or divorce, you should consult with a Texas divorce lawyer. A divorce is a method of ending a marriage contract between two people. Your divorce will legally grant each person the right to marry someone else, divide the couple’s assets and debts, and determine the care and custody of their children. Divorces in Texas are either fault-based or no-fault. Divorce is a method of ending a marriage contract between two people. Divorce in Texas can be “no-fault” or “fault-based.” A no-fault divorce is a marital dissolution proceeding in which neither party is required to prove fault (show that the other party caused the breakdown of the marriage). Under no-fault divorce laws, either party may obtain a divorce even if the other spouse does not consent. If a couple’s marriage has become “insupportable” or has been living apart for three years, they can get a no-fault divorce. Divorce was historically granted based on improper conduct, such as adultery or spousal abuse. In these cases, the “guilty” spouse was punished by receiving a lesser portion of the marital property or losing custody of their kids, whereas the “innocent” party was compensated for upholding the marriage vows. In a no-fault divorce, however, both parties have agreed that the grounds for divorce are not based on “fault.” No-fault divorces are available in Texas for married couples whose marriage has become “unsupportable” due to conflict that has damaged the legitimate ends of the relationship. A no-fault divorce can be granted if a couple has been living independently – no cohabitation for at least three years. “Fault” divorce occurs when one party blames the other for the marriage’s failure by citing a legal wrong. Adultery, abandonment, felony conviction and imprisonment for more than one year, and cruel and inhuman treatment are all allowable grounds in Texas. The spouse seeking divorce can use the defense that the divorcing spouse was okay with the behavior, but the court will only allow that defense if the parties appear to have a good chance of reconciling. If there is little or no marital property, no kids, and no spousal support issues, amicable spouses can typically obtain a quick divorce by drafting a divorce agreement and having it approved by a judge. Most divorces, on the other hand, are quite different and far more complicated. A typical Texas divorce involves a long-term marriage with significant marital property, both personal and real estate, children, family businesses, large or hidden debts, trust funds, out-of-state real estate, joint and separate accounts, investments, insurance, pensions, and other assets. In these complex situations, the parties frequently cannot divide their property on their own and may require court intervention for its final division. At The Longworth Law Firm, P.C., we understand that facing a divorce or any family law matter is one of your most challenging experiences. Our team is committed to providing compassionate, affordable, and effective legal solutions tailored to your unique situation. Whether you’re dealing with divorce, child custody, or any other family law issue, we’re here to help you protect your rights and secure your future. Don’t face this difficult time alone. Contact us today at (832) 759-5100 to schedule a consultation and take the first step toward resolving your legal challenges with the guidance of one of Houston’s most trusted family law attorneys. Let us be your partner in achieving the best possible outcome for you and your family. Understanding how to stop child support in Texas can be essential for parents seeking clarity about their financial obligations. In Texas, child support typically continues until specific conditions are met, such as the child turning 18 or graduating from high school. However, exceptions like emancipation or special agreements can also play a role. Knowing when you’re eligible to stop payments ensures you meet legal requirements without unnecessary delays. This guide explains the key milestones and legal steps to help you navigate this process smoothly. Ah, child support – the ever-present reminder of past relationships and financial responsibilities. We get it, dear reader. The struggle can be real. But fear not, for in this lively article, we’re here to guide you through the intricate web of terminating child support in the Lone Star State of Texas. Picture this: You’re sitting at your favorite café, sipping your go-to beverage, and contemplating life’s peculiar twists and turns. Suddenly, a thought pops into your mind like a light bulb illuminating a dark room – “How do I stop child support in Texas?” Well, my friend, you’ve come to the right place. Whether it’s a change in circumstances, a desire for financial freedom, or a newfound appreciation for the art of budgeting, putting an end to those pesky payments can seem like a daunting task. But fret not, for we’ve got your back. In this lively and informative read, we’ll dive headfirst into the wild world of child support termination. We’ll explore the factors considered when calculating child support, uncover the secrets of modifying those court orders, and shed light on the various enforcement methods that can make even the most stubborn payers reconsider their ways. We won’t stop at just the legalities and formalities. We’ll take a closer look at co-parenting strategies, the responsibilities of the custodial parent, and even unravel the tantalizing world of tax implications. Yes, we’re going full-on detective mode here! And for those curious minds, we won’t limit ourselves to the great state of Texas alone. We’ll sprinkle in some wisdom about child support guidelines in other jurisdictions, giving you a broader perspective on this tangled web of financial responsibilities. But hold your horses, we’re not done just yet. We’ve got some juicy tidbits to share about alternative dispute resolution methods, because who doesn’t love a little mediation and collaboration? It’s all about finding peaceful solutions, my friend. And fear not, we won’t leave you hanging. We’ve prepared a treasure trove of resources for you to explore. Support groups, legal aid services, and nifty online tools are just a few clicks away, ready to assist you on this journey towards child support independence. So, dear reader, if you’re ready to break free from the chains of child support payments in Texas, grab a cozy seat, buckle up, and join us on this thrilling adventure. Together, we’ll navigate the twists and turns, unravel the mysteries, and empower you to take charge of your child support destiny. Get ready to bid those pesky payments adieu, because we’re about to embark on a journey of financial liberation! Child support is a crucial aspect of ensuring the well-being of children in separated or divorced families. In Texas, as in many other jurisdictions, child support orders are established to provide financial assistance for the care and upbringing of children. However, circumstances may arise where individuals find themselves seeking information on how to stop child support in Texas. This article aims to shed light on the topic, offering insights and guidance for those navigating this complex issue. When determining child support obligations in Texas, several factors are taken into account. These factors include the income of both parents, the specific needs of the child, and any unique circumstances that might impact the calculation. By understanding the intricate nature of these considerations, individuals can better comprehend the child support process and how modifications might be sought if necessary. Factors Considered in Child Support Calculations Reasons for Importance Income of both parents Ensures fairness and equitable distribution of financial responsibility Needs of the child Addresses the child’s essential requirements, such as education, healthcare, and living expenses Special circumstances Recognizes unique situations that may impact the child’s well-being and financial support Parenting time and custody arrangements Reflects the time each parent spends with the child and their respective responsibilities Additional expenses Covers extraordinary costs, such as medical bills or childcare expenses Income potential and earning capacity Considers the ability of both parents to earn income and support their child Standard of living Maintains a reasonable standard of living for the child, consistent with their parents’ circumstances Other dependents and obligations Recognizes the financial obligations of both parents towards their other children or dependents Tax implications Accounts for any tax-related considerations in calculating child support Cost of living adjustments Adjusts the child support amount based on changes in the cost of living over time It is essential to recognize that child support orders are not set in stone. Circumstances may change, and modifications to child support orders can be requested if a substantial change occurs. For instance, if there is a significant change in income or the needs of the child, it is possible to pursue a modification to ensure the child support arrangement remains fair and appropriate. Child support orders are legally binding, and there are mechanisms in place to enforce compliance. Wage garnishment, income withholding, and legal action through the court system are all potential avenues for enforcement. It is crucial for both custodial and non-custodial parents to understand these enforcement methods to ensure the financial support necessary for the child’s well-being is received consistently. Neglecting to meet child support obligations can have severe consequences. While the article has briefly touched upon the potential consequences of non-payment, it is important to emphasize the potential legal ramifications. Non-payment of child support may result in fines, license suspension, or in extreme cases, imprisonment. Understanding the gravity of these consequences can encourage individuals to fulfill their obligations and seek appropriate legal remedies when needed. Maintaining a healthy co-parenting relationship is beneficial for the child’s emotional well-being and overall development. The article acknowledges this importance but does not delve into specific co-parenting arrangements, strategies, or resources. Exploring effective co-parenting techniques, such as open communication, mutual respect, and utilizing mediation or counseling services, can contribute to a more positive and harmonious parenting experience. While child support primarily focuses on the non-custodial parent’s financial obligations, it is equally important to address the responsibilities and obligations of the custodial parent. Financial management, ensuring the child’s needs are met, and fostering a supportive environment are all crucial aspects of the custodial parent’s role. Recognizing and fulfilling these responsibilities contributes to the overall well-being of the child. The article has not touched upon the potential tax implications associated with child support. It is worth noting that child support payments are typically not considered taxable income for the recipient. Conversely, they are not tax-deductible for the payor. Understanding these tax implications can help both parties navigate their financial obligations accurately. While this article focuses specifically on child support calculations in Texas, it is essential to acknowledge that child support guidelines and calculations may vary in other states or countries. Individuals involved in child custody and support cases should familiarize themselves with the laws and regulations applicable to their jurisdiction. Seeking legal counsel or consulting relevant resources specific to their location can provide valuable insights and guidance. Resolving child support disputes outside of the courtroom is an alternative worth considering. Mediation and collaborative law are effective methods for parents to reach mutually satisfactory agreements. These approaches encourage open dialogue, cooperation, and tailored solutions that align with the best interests of the child. Individuals navigating child support issues should explore these alternative dispute resolution methods for a potentially more amicable resolution. Parents involved in child custody and support cases can benefit from a range of resources and support systems. Support groups, both online and offline, offer opportunities to connect with others facing similar challenges, providing emotional support and guidance. Legal aid services can assist individuals in understanding their rights and responsibilities, ensuring they have the necessary information to navigate the child support process effectively. Additionally, online tools for calculating child support can provide a convenient way to estimate obligations and explore different scenarios. Understanding how to stop child support in Texas involves navigating a range of legal and practical considerations. While terminating child support may be a valid concern, it’s essential to approach the process with a clear grasp of the guidelines, potential modifications, and enforcement measures involved. By carefully evaluating factors such as co-parenting strategies and alternative dispute resolution methods, you can make informed decisions that serve the best interests of your child. Utilizing available resources and seeking professional guidance will offer crucial support as you navigate this complex journey. If you want to know more about what you can do, CLICK the button below to get your FREE E-book: “Child Custody E-Book” If you want to know more about what you can do, CLICK the button below to get your FREE E-book: “Father’s Rights E-Book” Can a parent cancel child support