

# FAMILY LAW

We understand that separation is one of the most difficult times you can experience.

Whether your dispute relates to children, property, or both, we are focused on providing timely, relevant and understanding advice and assistance to help you through this difficult time.

## **Understanding Your Needs**

At such a difficult time, you need someone you can rely on to help see you through. We focus on addressing your needs, and ensure that we act swiftly to secure your, and your children's, best interests.

## **No Up Front Fee**

It is important to be able to act with confidence. We offer the first half hour of our initial consultation free of charge, so that we can assess your needs and ensure that you are well informed.

For certain matters, we can even accept payment at the conclusion when a settlement is effected.

## **Dispute Resolution**

We explore all avenues to resolve matters without the need for Court intervention, including mediation or round table conferences. We then prepare documents recording your agreement, without the need to go to Court.

Should negotiations break down, we ensure that your Court documents are prepared in a timely and efficient manner, to ensure that you get the best result possible.

## **Pre-Nuptial Agreements**

For those who have assets or financial resources prior to their marriage or de facto relationship, it is necessary to consider the financial implications of separation and divorce. A properly worded Pre-Nuptial Agreement (Binding Financial Agreement) can help protect those assets and resources.

We are happy to advise on and prepare such agreements, to ensure that clients are properly protected and fully understand them.

## **Urgent Applications**

Often in family law matters you need urgent advice and assistance. We ensure that we are available to provide this timely advice, including acting on urgent matters such as recovery and/or location orders (return of children), injunctions (protection of property interests) and family violence (intervention orders).

## **Our Practitioners**

We have a highly experienced and dedicated team with extensive experience in all areas of Family Law, including divorce, children's matters, matrimonial and de facto property and intervention orders.

Our lawyers routinely appear in the Family Law Courts (Family and Federal Magistrates Courts) and State Courts (intervention orders), as well as at mediations.

## **Accredited Specialist**

Our team of lawyers also includes an Accredited Family Law Specialist.

An Accredited Specialist is required to display the highest level of understanding in an area of law by completing an assessment undertaken by the Law Institute of Victoria, and to maintain a high level of training and involvement in their area.

Having an Accredited Specialist on our team means that the advice you receive is reliable, and up to date with changes in the law.

## **Referral Services**

To assist our clients, we have an extensive network of support services. These include referrals to psychologists/counsellors as well as loan brokers and financial advisers to help with the financial pressures that separation can bring.

## **Our Services**

We are a 'full service' legal practice, providing assistance in all areas of the law. We ensure that all available avenues are evaluated to make sure that the best possible outcome is achieved.

Our areas of practice are broad and include:

- Family Law;
- Business & Employment Law;
- Property;
- Crime;
- Litigation; and
- Wills & Estates

In addition, our conveyancing services are fully supervised by a solicitor.

## **Our Invitation to You**

We invite you to contact us or come in to or see one of our solicitors and see how we can help you.