

DIVORCE CHECKLIST

LEGAL & REPRESENTATION

- ☐ Research and hire a divorce attorney in Michigan
- ☐ Ask about their experience with divorce, custody, and support cases
- ☐ Consider mediation or collaborative divorce if appropriate
- ☐ Gather essential court forms (e.g., Summons with Notice, Verified Complaint, Child Support Worksheet, Judgment of Divorce)

FINANCES

- ☐ Gather 3 years of tax returns, pay stubs, W-2s
- ☐ List all assets (home, vehicles, bank accounts, etc.)
- ☐ List all debts (credit cards, all loans, mortgage)
- ☐ Start building your own savings in a personal bank account
- ☐ Create a realistic post-divorce budget

LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

- ☐ Decide who will stay in the marital home
- ☐ If staying, consult a mortgage broker to put the home in your name
- ☐ If moving, search for a new place within your budget
- ☐ Discuss your plans with your attorney

PARENTING AND CUSTODY

- ☐ Outline your goals for custody and parenting time
- ☐ Keep a record of your involvement in your children's lives
- ☐ Consider tools like parenting apps to manage schedules and communication
- ☐ Discuss possibilities with your attorney