

## **Collaborative Law: A Different Way To Divorce**

### **Which Family Issues Can Be Resolved With Collaborative Law?**

- Separation and Divorce
- Child Custody and Parenting Issues
- Support and Alimony
- Division of Assets and Debts
- Non-Marital Relationship Break-up
- Modification of Existing Orders

### **Collaborative Law**

**Creative  
Approach**

**Reduces  
Conflict**

**Protects  
Children**

**Avoids Court**

**Can Be  
Less Expensive**

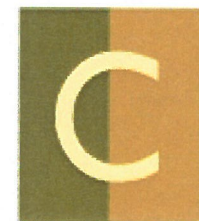
#### **Collaborative Professionals of Central Pennsylvania**

The members of the CPCP are independent attorneys, financial and mental health professionals who have been trained in the collaborative law process. CPCP members attorneys are not affiliated with each other for the joint practice of law unless they are identified as members of the same law firm. No conflicts of interest are imputed between CPCP members who are members of different law offices. Except for those attorneys who are members of the same law firm, CPCP members retain complete autonomy, render professional advice to their respective clients on an individual and separate basis, and are not restricted in referring, handling, or accepting cases, including the representation of an individual where the other party to a dispute is represented by another member of CPCP. CPCP member attorneys who are affiliated with one another as members of the same law firm may not represent any individual where the other party to the conflict is represented by any other member of their

**YOU CAN'T  
CHANGE THE  
FACT THAT  
PEOPLE  
DIVORCE.**

**YOU CAN  
CHANGE THE  
WAY THEY  
DIVORCE.**

[www.collaborativelawpa.com](http://www.collaborativelawpa.com)



**COLLABORATIVE LAW  
PRACTICE**

Resolving Disputes Respectfully.



COLLABORATIVE LAW  
PRACTICE

Resolving Disputes Respectfully.

## Why Collaborative Law?

### CLIENTS ARE IN CHARGE

The process is empowering, informative, and less stressful than court. The parties control the proceedings. Your destiny and that of your family is not in the hands of a third party (the court).

### COLLABORATIVE LAWYERS

Both parties have skilled family lawyers trained in and committed to the collaborative process of settling issues without resorting to the courts.

### COOPERATIVE APPROACH

You are each supported and represented by your own lawyer and yet you can cooperate confidently with the other party and his or her lawyer in resolving your issues.

### CLIENT PARTICIPATION

You are a vital part of the settlement team (consisting of both parties and both attorneys).

### AVOID COURT

Everyone can focus on a settlement without the constant threat of "going to court."

### CAN BE LESS COSTLY

This process is generally less time-consuming and less costly than court proceedings and trial.

### IT WORKS

The collaborative law process works if problem solving is more important than fighting and you want solutions that are fair to both of you.

**WHAT IS COLLABORATIVE FAMILY LAW?**  
In collaborative law, the attorneys for both parties to a family law dispute assist the parties in resolving issues in a positive environment, using a cooperative approach. It is an alternative dispute resolution process which allows the parties to avoid going to court, while still receiving the support and expertise of their own family law attorneys.

## How Does Collaborative Law Work?

- Informal conferences where the future well-being of you and your family is the number one goal.
  - Complete, honest exchange of information in an informal setting.
  - Creative problem-solving techniques to assist you in producing an agreement tailored to the needs of you and your family.
  - The other party and his or her attorney are treated as part of a settlement team, not as adversaries.
  - Both attorneys are concerned about the process, as well as the outcome.
- Your collaborative lawyers are committed to finding constructive ways to achieve a settlement that will work best in your case. Their basic philosophy is to focus on a settlement rather than preparation for a trial.
- The lawyers have a strong incentive to succeed. They must settle your case or withdraw.
  - In the event the parties are unable to reach a settlement through the collaborative process, the collaborative lawyers withdraw from the case and the parties are free to hire trial attorneys to pursue the matter in court.

## Start Your Collaborative Law Process Now

Talk with the other party about Collaborative Family Law and share this brochure.

Each of you choose a collaborative lawyer.

Meet with your own collaborative lawyer to discuss the details of the collaborative law process in your situation.

**Collaborative Law:  
A Different Way  
To Divorce**