

“Overall, the outcome gave us a settlement that respected what was important to each of us. My divorce coach was immensely helpful to me in helping me clarify my priorities. Areas of the agreement that became contentious were much easier to reconcile when we made the tradeoff decisions through the lens of personal priority, as opposed to ‘wins and losses’. It allowed my ex-husband and me to retain a sense of dignity through the process that might otherwise been lost.”

COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE CLIENT,
Married 12 Years

“We chose the Collaborative approach with our divorce because we wanted a respectful process. We did not want our future joint parenting relationship to be adversely affected by litigation. We were active participants in the final settlement as opposed to having the judge decide the outcome. The team approach of using attorneys, coaches and financial specialists was very helpful and educational. It was obvious that the goals of the whole team were to solve problems rather than to create them.”

COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE CLIENT,
Married 13 Years

“Things have been going well with me and T. (former wife) and I feel as if we have a solid agreement that we’re both satisfied with. Most importantly, my kids are doing great, which is most important to me. I’m not sure that things would have worked out this well if we hadn’t used this process.”

COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE CLIENT,
Married 13 Years



**Collaborative
Divorce**
Illinois

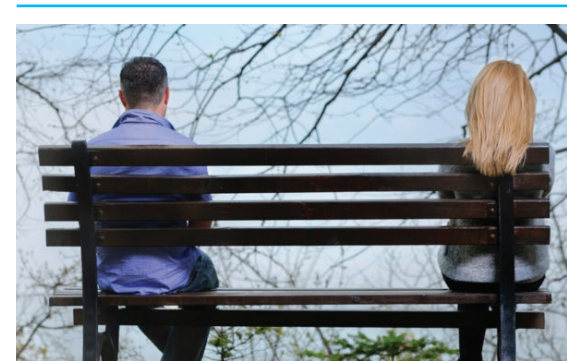
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Collaborative Divorce Illinois
is an organization comprised
of 150 caring trained professionals
who are dedicated to helping
people divorce with dignity
and respect.

Member of:



COLLABORATIVE
PRACTICE

Resolving Disputes Respectfully

COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE

A Better Way to Divorce



**Collaborative
Divorce**
Illinois

A BETTER WAY TO DIVORCE

Collaborative Divorce uses specially trained lawyers, divorce coaches, child specialists, and financial specialists to help you reach an out of court agreement, with privacy and respect. During a Collaborative Divorce both spouses commit to:

- *signing a written pledge not to go to court.*
- *voluntarily exchanging full financial information.*
- *participating in a problem-solving approach that addresses the needs of both spouses and their children.*

The goal is to solve problems jointly, prevent a court battle, and, where there are children, make them a priority rather than a casualty.

THE APPROACH

RESOLVING DISPUTES RESPECTFULLY

Collaborative Divorce provides face-to-face meetings with you, your spouse, your lawyers, and other advisers as needed, including divorce coaches, child specialists, and financial specialists. You and your spouse, rather than a judge, stay in control of the decisions. By utilizing a problem-solving approach, and emphasizing cooperation to find solutions, Collaborative Divorce allows you and your spouse to reach a workable settlement by building on areas of mutual agreement.



THE TEAM

CENTERED AROUND A POSITIVE TRANSITION

In addition to legal counsel, the Collaborative Divorce team also frequently includes divorce coaches, a financial specialist, and a child specialist.

A Divorce Coach helps each spouse manage the pain and strain of changing relationships while focusing on goals for the present and future.

A neutral Financial Specialist helps you and your spouse identify your options and alternatives by reviewing all assets and incomes, and assists in developing financial scenarios for the future well-being of all family members.

A neutral Child Specialist helps you and your spouse create parenting time plans and parenting arrangements customized to the unique needs of your family.

BENEFITS OF A COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE

- ✔ Keeps control of the process and timeline with the individuals
- ✔ Promotes open communication
- ✔ Uses a problem-solving approach
- ✔ Identifies and addresses interests and concerns of all
- ✔ Emphasizes the needs of children
- ✔ Creates agreements more likely to be adhered to by both spouses
- ✔ Encourages mutual respect
- ✔ Reduces stress and animosity
- ✔ Protects privacy
- ✔ Prevents a court battle
- ✔ Prepares individuals for new lives
- ✔ Is usually less costly than litigation

Find a professional trained in the Collaborative process at CollaborativeDivorcellinois.org. If you have questions, call 312-882-8000.