



## Family Law Webinar: Part 2

### Divorce 101

November 5, 2020

# Our Presenters



**Susan Lichterman**  
Presenter  
Family Law



**Jennifer LaTosch**  
Presenter  
Family Law



**Kristiana Boutell**  
Co-Presenter  
Family Law

# Agenda

- What does No Fault Divorce really mean?
- Overview of the divorce process in Michigan
- Answers to commonly asked questions
- Audience questions and answers

# What does No Fault Divorce really mean?

- Can file divorce for any reason or no reason at all
- Fault can be considered by the court when addressing property settlement and spousal support/alimony
- The cost to prove fault may outweigh the benefit

# Overview of the divorce process in Michigan

- Initiating Process/Drafting Complaint is very simple
  - Jurisdictional information
    - State of Michigan: 180 Days
    - County of Filing: 10 Days
  - Objects of matrimony have been destroyed and no reasonable likelihood the marriage can be preserved
  - Do not provide specifics as to assets and liabilities in complaint
  - Certain information about minor children required
  - Verified Statement if minor children or requesting spousal support alimony

# Overview of the divorce process in Michigan

- Ex Parte Orders
- Statutory Waiting Periods
  - 60 days without minor children – cannot be waived
  - 6 months with minor children – after 60 days the balance of the 6 months can be waived under certain circumstances
- Answering the Complaint
- Verified Financial Information Form Exchange
- Discovery
- Separate vs. marital property

# Overview of the divorce process in Michigan

- Mediation
- Trial/Arbitration
- Post-Judgment proceedings

# Overview of the divorce process in Michigan

- Settlement Agreements/Judgment
  - Custody/Parenting Time
  - Child Support
  - Division of Assets
  - Division of Liabilities
  - Alimony/Spousal Support
  - Security for Support
  - Statutory Provisions
  - Full Disclosure
  - Waivers/Releases
  - Attorney Fees



# Answers to commonly asked questions

- Can we use one lawyer?
- Do I have to live with my spouse during the divorce?
- Will my divorce end up looking like my friend/sibling/neighbor's divorce?
- Do the years we lived together before marriage count?
- What happens if my husband/wife doesn't disclose all his/her assets?

# Thank You



Susan leads our Family practice group. She specializes in all aspects of domestic relations law, including divorce, separation, custody, parenting time, child support, spousal support, paternity, post-nuptial and prenuptial agreements, change of domicile, post-judgment modifications, and other family law matters. In addition to representing and advocating for both men and women in domestic relations matters, Susan also serves as a neutral mediator and arbitrator.

[slichterman@jaffelaw.com](mailto:slichterman@jaffelaw.com)

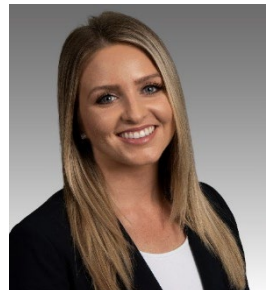
248.727.1423



Jennifer is an attorney who concentrates her practice in family and domestic relations law, which includes routine and complex divorces, post-judgment matters, custody and parenting time disputes, pre- and post-nuptial agreements, cohabitation agreements and dissolution of relationship matters, child support, paternity, change of domicile, adoption, and personal protection orders.

[jlatosch@jaffelaw.com](mailto:jlatosch@jaffelaw.com)

248.727.1486



Kristi is an attorney whose practice centers around all aspects of domestic relations law, including divorce, separation, custody, parenting time, child support, spousal support, paternity, post-nuptial and pre-nuptial agreements, change of domicile, post-judgment modifications, and other family law matters.

[kboutell@jaffelaw.com](mailto:kboutell@jaffelaw.com)

248.727.1489