



Divorce can be a complicated, high stakes process and it's best to have an expert on the law and on settlement negotiations on your side. Read on for the top 10 reasons to hire a divorce lawyer.

1. **A divorce lawyer can make coming to a settlement agreement easier:** You and your spouse may have a hard time agreeing but your attorneys can help you to determine what is fair and what isn't. This can help you come to a settlement agreement much more quickly.
2. **A divorce lawyer can communicate with your spouse for you:** Often spouses going through a divorce harbor negative feelings—and meetings can dissolve into fights. A divorce lawyer can help you avoid this nastiness by communicating with your spouse through the opposing attorney.
3. **A divorce lawyer can help make the process less emotional:** If your divorce lawyer takes care of the practical details and keeps you focused on coming to an agreement, it may help you to become less angry or sad at the prospect of the end of your marriage.
4. **A divorce lawyer can help you to make the divorce process faster:** Attorneys can let you know the requirements for divorce and can help you to come up with a settlement faster, so ultimately you can get the process over with more quickly.
5. **A divorce lawyer can help you decide the terms of your divorce settlement:** When you get divorced, you have to divide property and come up with a financial settlement. Divorce attorneys are experienced at doing this and can help make it easier for you to include everything you need in the agreement.
6. **A divorce lawyer can help you assess whether an offer is fair or not:** Most states have specific rules for dissolution of marital property. For example, in community property states, you may be entitled to 1/2 of all marital assets. Your attorney can apply these rules and laws when looking at a settlement agreement and make sure your spouse isn't trying to cheat you.
7. **A divorce lawyer can help protect your custody rights:** Child custody is often one of the most contested issues in a divorce, and an attorney can help you prove your rights to your child.
8. **A divorce lawyer can help you understand what the law entitles you to:** In addition to a portion of marital assets, you may also be entitled to a share of your partner's pension or Social Security under the law if you have been married long enough. A divorce lawyer can help you decide exactly what is it you are entitled to and make sure that is included in the agreement.
9. **A divorce lawyer can help you understand legal paperwork associated with the divorce:** When you actually file for divorce, you have to submit various papers to the court to approve. A divorce lawyer can help you get those papers in order so the judge can sign off on them.
10. **A divorce lawyer can make sure your rights are protected:** Since you may not understand the law, you may not be aware of how to protect yourself. Divorce attorneys are experienced, and are required to have your best interests at heart when representing you.

Please call Gault & Simms, PLLC at 502.709.9900 today and let us help you determine if you need to hire a divorce attorney.