



15 Divorce Questions for Majeski Law

15 Typical Questions we get at Majeski Law about Divorces

1. Do you specialize in divorces?
 - a. Majeski Law handles only family law cases, which include divorce. Divorce is the most common type of family law case. Divorces account for roughly 75% of the firm's cases. Other cases include Child Custody, Orders for Protection, Grandparents' Custody & Visitation, and Post-Decree Modifications.

2. How long have you been practicing?
 - a. I graduated from the William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul and passed the Minnesota State Bar Exam in 2008. I started the Majeski Law firm in January of 2009.

3. How long will it take to complete the divorce process?
 - a. This will vary on a case-by-case basis, however most divorces in Minnesota will fall within three and twelve months. How many issues of disagreement usually dictate how long the case will be.

4. How does the initial process go with Majeski Law?
 - a. After an initial phone consultation we typically will meet at the office for an initial intake. This will include getting to know more about you and your family situation as well as us answering any questions you have. In addition, we also ask you

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- what your goals are for the divorce. Specifically, what do you want to get out of it? What are you hoping to avoid?
- b. We also sign the contract which starts our attorney-client relationship and an initial retainer is provided at that meeting.
 - c. At the end of the meeting, we give you a handout to complete on your time which provides more detailed information about your family situation. What we gather from the initial intake and from this handout will allow us to draft the “pleadings”, which are just the documents which start the case from your side.
5. How long do you take to return phone calls and emails?
- a. Generally, if you don’t get a hold of someone immediately, phone calls and emails are returned same-day, usually within a few hours. You will also have access to an “after-hours” line if you want to talk outside of normal business hours.
6. Who will be working on my family law case?
- a. All legal work will be provided by Matt Majeski, the owner and attorney for Majeski Law. Your case will not be passed off onto an inexperienced attorney.
 - b. Administrative work will mostly be done by Rachel Rogers, legal assistant. On occasion Matt Majeski will perform administrative tasks as needed, however he only bills at the legal assistant rate when completing these tasks.

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7. Does Majeski Law have time for my case?
 - a. Yes, always. If we couldn't, we wouldn't take your case in the first place. If at any time the firm became pressed with current clients, we would decline future clients until we finished at least some of our current caseload.

8. Will I receive documents from the court and from my spouse's attorney?
 - a. Yes, also always. These are usually done as email attachments for expedience. In the alternative, they can be mailed.

9. How does Majeski Law bill?
 - a. Majeski Law bills all cases at an hourly rate. There are two separate rates, one for legal work performed by Matt Majeski and a lower rate for administrative work.
 - b. Retainers are required for all family law cases. Majeski Law does not offer payment plans.
 - c. Invoices are sent out monthly which list in detail all work done for you, as well as who completed the work and how long that work took.
 - d. All expenses for the firm are rolled into the hourly rates. We do not charge extra for things like office expenses.
 - e. All expenses outside of the firm (like court fees) may come from the retainer or may come from you directly.

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10. What will the total cost of my divorce be?

- a. Unfortunately, this is an impossible question to answer. The lowest end cases can run around \$3,000. These typically are those in which the party agrees on almost everything and are fairly friendly.
- b. On the other end, cases going all the way to trial can run over \$10,000 or \$15,000 fairly easily. These cases are typically the contentious ones in which the couple has a lot of anger and resentment and there are a lot of issues at stake.

11. Can you predict the outcome of my divorce?

- a. This is also impossible to do. Family law is one area which permits a wide range of judicial discretion. Majeski Law will carefully review the facts in your case and try to give rough estimates, but ultimately that's the most that can be done. This is a big reason why settlement is often encouraged, because it offers some certainty with the outcome.

12. What does Majeski Law think of settling a divorce case?

- a. We always work to strike the balance between informing you of your rights, advocating when you want us to, and promoting settlement when you want to. Settlement is generally the preferred option if possible, but ultimately this decision is always left with the client.

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13. Can I negotiate directly with my spouse?

- a. Of course! I encourage this whenever possible, with the exception of cases in which there is domestic abuse involved. The only advice I give to clients is never to reach a final agreement on anything with your spouse before letting Majeski Law review it for fairness from your perspective.

14. Can I keep the cost of divorce down in other ways?

- a. Also of course! Typically the more legwork you do the less expensive the divorce will be. Majeski Law is happy to perform tasks for you as you want, but obviously it will often be less expensive if a client does it.

15. Will my opinion matter?

- a. Absolutely. The best analogy we can draw is that of informed consent. Majeski Law's job is to advise you of the issues as well as the strengths and weaknesses of your case. How you decide to use that information is up to you, because it's your life and your family. We give advice if requested, but ultimately we always remember that this is your case and our job is to help you achieve your goals within it.

We hope this Q&A helped with questions you may have in your divorce lawyer search. If you have more questions for Majeski Law, please feel free to contact us at the phone numbers below or after visiting our website.

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