TERRY & DEGRAAUW
FAMILY LAW FIRM

DIVORCE TIMELINE

Initial Stage (Case Opening)

Initial Consultation

Gather financial documents from client for attorney file

Petition for Dissolution filed (i.e. Court case is opened); Temporary Domestic order entered

Interim (Information Gathering)

Address Temporary Orders: Sharing Income and Expenses, Temporary Timesharing of Children, Use of the Marital Residence, and any other motions necessary to address case issues as they arise

Formal discovery starts (i.e. interrogatories, depositions, subpoenas)

Settlement Discussions (Negotiating)

Formulate/Exchange Settlement Offers/Counteroffers to Finalize:
Asset & Debt Division
Taxes
Insurance, Disability & Retirement
Spousal Support
Child Custody
Child Visitation
Child Support

Attend Settlement Facilitation/Mediation (if necessary)

Trial or Settlement Reached

Trial on the Merits (if case did not settle)

Final documents entered:
Marital Settlement Agreement (i.e. property, debt, and support terms)
Parenting Plan (custody and timesharing)
Final Decree of Dissolution

Post-Settlement (Final Tasks)

Orders dividing retirement benefits entered and submitted to plans

Monitor transfer of assets and compliance with agreements: Refinance mortgage, monitor equalization payments, file deeds for real property, and complete final tasks outlined in agreements