

Divorce Research Guide

Overview

This research guide includes information and resources on divorce. Divorce is the “legal dissolution of a marriage by a court.” (*Black’s Law Dictionary*, 11th ed.) The resources listed below are not exhaustive and may not include the most up-to-date information. It is for information purposes only and should not be construed as legal advice or act as the substitute for legal counsel.

Related guides: Annulment, Child Custody, Common Law Marriage, Child Support, Child Support Liens, Citation by Posting, Citation by Publication, Community Property, CPS and Family Protective Services, Enforcement and Contempt, Habeas Corpus/Writ of Attachment, Mediation, Partition, Paternity, Possession Orders, Post Divorce Division of Property, Premarital Agreements, Protective Orders, Separate Property, Serving Court Documents, Spousal Maintenance, Support for Minor and Adult Children with Disabilities

Statutes and Codes

Texas Statutes Online www.statutes.capitol.texas.gov

Texas Family Code

- Ch. 6 Suit for Dissolution of Marriage
<https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/FA/htm/F.A.6.htm>

Secondary Resources in Print

Divorce & Money: Make the Best Financial Decisions During Divorce 13th ed. REF KF 524 .Z9 W66

Divorce After 50: A Guide to the Unique Legal & Financial Challenges of Your Divorce REF KF 535 .Z9 G738

Texas Family Law Practice Manual REF KFT 1294 .T4S7

- Vol. 1, Ch. 3 Divorce Pleadings
- Vol. 1, Ch. 4 Divorce – Temporary Restraining Orders and Temporary Orders

Texas Family Law Practice and Procedure REF KFT 1294 .F35

- Vol. 1, Task C. Initiating Dissolution Action
- Vol. 1, Task D. Responding to Petition
- Vol. 2, Task E. Settlement and Trial
- Vol. 2, Task F. Finalizing the Case

O’Connor’s Texas Family Law Forms REF KFt 1294 A65 W55

- Ch. 2 Marital Property Agreements
- Ch. 4 Suit for Dissolution Without Children
- Ch. 5 Suit for Divorce with Children

NOLO’s Essential Guide to Divorce 9th ed. REF KF 535 .Z9 D67

A Legal Guide for Lesbian and Gay Couples 20th ed. REF KF 539 .L44

- Divorce, Same-Sex Marriage, pp. 355-369

NOLO’s Essential Guide to Child Custody & Support REF KF 547 .D67

- Ch. 1 Basics of Divorce

Texas Family Code Annotated REF KFT 1294 .A3

- Ch. 6 Suit for Dissolution of Marriage, Subchapter A: Grounds for Divorce and Defenses

CLE Materials

Marriage Dissolution 101 KFT 1300 .M3732 (*PDF only*)

- 2024 Ch. 3 Temporary Orders on a Budget or with Limited Time (*PDF only*)

- 2022 Ch. 8 Closing the File Turn Out the Lights the Party's Over (24 sample forms/letters in appendices)

Marriage Dissolution Institute KFT 1300 .M372 (PDF only)

- 2024 Ch. 4 Law and Order: Divorces Involving Criminal Charges and Protective Orders
- 2024 Ch. 6 Mental Health and Divorce
- 2024 Ch. 11 Divorcing a Pro Se
- 2024 Ch. 18 Enforcing Decrees and Agreement Incidents to Divorce

Advanced Family Law KFT 1294 .S83

- 2023 Ch. 14 Military Benefits and Divorce (PDF only)
- 2023 Ch. 22 Complicated Tax Issues in Divorce (PDF only)
- 2023 Ch. 23 Low Net Worth Divorce: Unique Issues (PDF only)
- 2023 Ch. 28 Closely Held Business Entities (PDF only)
- 2021 Vol. 1, Ch. 22 Spy Torts and Privacy Issues in Family Law
- 2021 Vol. 2, Ch. 26 Tax Issues in Divorce: Identifying Landmines and Presenting them to the Court
- 2018 Ch. 11 Forgotten Issues in Divorce

Online Resources

District Clerk Court Document Lookup (Tarrant County)
<https://www.tarrantcountytx.gov/en/district-clerk/services/district-clerk-court-document-lookup.html>

Divorce (Texas Law Help)
<https://texaslawhelp.org/family-divorce-children/divorce>

Divorce Research Guide (TSLL)
<https://guides.sll.texas.gov/divorce>

Pro Se Divorce Handbook (State Bar of Texas)
https://www.texasbar.com/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Free_Legal_Information2&Template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=27026

Legal Assistance

Legal Lines – Ask Attorneys simple legal questions (free service)

- Tarrant County LegalLine Sign-up
<https://www.tarrantbar.org/>
- Dallas County LegalLine Sign-up
<https://www.dallasbar.org/index.cfm?pg=legaline>

Tarrant County Bar Association Lawyer Referral Service: <https://www.tarrantbar.org/?pg=LRIS>