



## **Divorce Case Checklist**

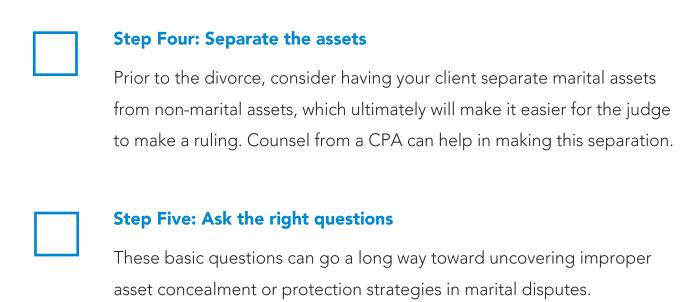
Forensic Accounting Recommendations for Family Law Attorneys

www.gma-cpa.com Baltimore, MD | Fairfax, VA Even in the most amicable of cases, divorce litigation involves complex procedures to value and divide assets. The following guidelines can help attorneys discover hidden assets, avoid income manipulation, and ultimately maximize divorce clients' equitable results.

Take these steps as soon as possible in any divorce engagement:



Suspicion is one thing, but proof is another. Be sure to collect all financial documents—tax returns, personal financial statements, credit reports, bank and investment account statements—and start early.



- Is the spouse underreporting income and overstating business expenses?
- Does the spouse have a relationship with another person, and is he/ she spending or wasting marital assets on that person?
- After separation, is the spouse exhibiting a pattern of purchase activity, like overspending or unnecessary spending on the business that has a clear effect on depressing the value of marital assets?
- Are family members surreptitiously colluding with the spouse to hide marital assets?
- Has the spouse properly disclosed and valued intangible marital assets like patents or other intellectual property?
- Has the spouse properly disclosed, valued, and classified stock
   options and other investments that can be counted as marital assets?

## Looking for a shortcut? Partner with the experts.

As divorces proceed and parties get more emotional, the before mentioned steps only get harder. For advice about your case, talk to Gross Mendelsohn's team of certified forensic accountants by calling 800.899.4623 or contacting us here.

## **CONTACT US**

