

# Doreen Yaffa Advises On How To Be A Good Divorce Client

When going through a divorce, the process can be stressful at times. But with the helpful advice from experienced family attorney Doreen Yaffa of Yaffa & Associates that transitional time doesn't have to be difficult.



DOREEN YAFFA, FLORIDA BOARD CERTIFIED MARITAL AND FAMILY LAW ATTORNEY

For the process to move more smoothly not only the attorney but the client has to do their part- and learn how to be a good divorce client.

Longtime divorce attorney Doreen Yaffa shares tips on how to be a good divorce client.

## LISTEN TO YOUR ATTORNEY'S ADVICE

"Listen to what your attorney says. In truth, it may not always be what you want to hear, but it surely will be what you need to hear," says Yaffa.

You hired your divorce attorney for a reason— expertise. As an experienced Board Certified Marital and Family Law Attorney, Doreen Yaffa has in-depth knowledge of the plethora of rules that govern divorce. Doreen Yaffa has the ability to guide you down the path to conclude your case as smoothly and efficiently as possible.

"Paying attention to your attorney is crucial to a successful attorney-client relationship," explained Yaffa. "A good client works with

their lawyer to focus in on all issues, listens well and keeps his/her emotions in check. It is very easy to see your lawyer more as your therapist than your legal advocate. Also, Doreen advises to please listen to your lawyer's advice and not from your friends or family. They come from emotion and your attorney comes from knowledge and experience. Focus on letting your attorney do his or her job on your behalf. Attorneys are well-trained in telling you what the law provides, in explaining your rights and obligations, and setting forth the likely results of your case."

## CAREFULLY REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE

"If your attorney has sent you correspondence, be sure to read over the documents carefully and slowly. Take notes as you read it over," recommends Yaffa.

If you have questions about your case, sometimes you may discover the answer to your questions in previous correspondence from your attorney. You will be receiving a large quantity of information over the coming months, and it is easy to forget which topics you and your attorney have previously covered. Of course, if the answers you are seeking are not found in your previous correspondence, or you need immediate assistance with an emergency issue, contact your attorney with your questions.

## STAY ACTIVELY INVOLVED

"If your attorney doesn't want your input in the decision-making process, find a new one!" warns Yaffa.

Good marital and family lawyers realize that their job is to provide their clients with the best available options in any given situation and explain the possible consequences of each. By no means should you listen blindly. It is your case and your life! You should always be comfortable to ask questions, test theories, and even push your attorney to consider different options. Do not be shy about making sure you understand advice, recommendations, and any documents you sign. But, at a certain point, when your questions are answered and you understand your options, you should strongly consider your attorney's advice as in how to best proceed. Do not ignore it or take it lightly.

## RESPOND IN A TIMELY MANNER

During the course of your divorce, your attorney is going to need information from you, including financial documentation, such as bank statements and tax returns, home appraisals, and facts needed to value retirement accounts.

"You should provide your attorney with this information as soon as possible. For one thing, delivering the requested material sooner rather than later usually helps move your case along more quickly. Another reason is that state court rules set specific time frames for divorcing spouses to produce relevant information. If you miss court deadlines, a judge can sanction you by issuing fines or finding that you have waived certain rights," added Yaffa.

## COMMUNICATE WITH YOUR ATTORNEY, BUT DON'T OVERDO IT

Good communication between a client and family law attorney is essential to a successful outcome in your case. If your attorney reaches out to you, respond as soon as possible—odds are it's important.

"It's fine to contact your lawyer's office to get an update on your case, but don't make this a daily occurrence," says Yaffa.

Naturally you're anxious for things to move forward, but stretches of inactivity in a case are normal and often the result of divorce process mechanics. Incessant update inquiries can sour your relationship with your attorney and will probably cost you needless expense if you're billed for phone calls and emails.

"The bottom line is that your reasonable participation in all aspects of your divorce will help make you a good client and hopefully reduce the anxiety that's inherent in ending a marriage," says Yaffa.

The most important piece of advice is: Be upfront and transparent with your lawyer.

"Clients need to share all details of their marriage prior to moving forward. Your lawyer does not want to hear something for the first time from the other side or even worse in the courtroom."

Doreen Yaffa has been a fierce advocate for her clients for many years as a Board Certified attorney in marital and family law.

Her clients have praised Yaffa for her dedication to helping them transition to a new chapter in their life.

"Doreen Yaffa and all of her associates were AMAZING to work with. I could not be more satisfied with Yaffa and Associates, they provided an invaluable service to me and my children," stated Joan.

"A top-notch matrimonial attorney, Doreen Yaffa handled my case with the utmost care, concern, and professionalism. Doreen and her entire staff made one of the worst possible times in my life easier to bear," stated Michael.

"I provide a holistic approach to my practice assisting each and every one of my clients beyond the legal aspect. I am currently studying to be a Life Coach as many of my clients have sought my assistance with issues of life after divorce. I feel honored to help my clients to reach their best potential and find happiness and balance," concluded Yaffa.

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DOREEN IS ALWAYS PREPARING AND REVIEWING THE FACTS OF EACH CASE



MEETING WITH CLIENTS IS SOMETIMES AN EMOTIONAL PROCESS



GOING OVER THE FACTS OF THE CASE