



# **What to Bring, What to Ask:**

## **Preparing for Your Free New Jersey Family Law Consultation**

# Introduction

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At Zeigler Law Group, LLC, we work with individuals, business owners, and entrepreneurs facing various **divorce and family law matters**. We provide each of our clients with accurate and transparent insight into their legal situation and options, with a firm goal of protecting their rights. To best help us serve you, we encourage you to set up a free New Jersey family law consultation with our team.

As you prepare for your first consultation with us, use this checklist to help you prepare and bring with you information you might need that could help us better protect your future.





## 1. Basic Personal Information

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The personal information we may need includes:

- Your full legal name, including your and your spouse's name.
- Contact information, including your phone number, address, and email address.
- Your and your spouse's date of birth.
- Date and location of your marriage.
- Any prior legal proceeding documentation, including restraining orders, prior divorce filings, or any other valuable insight.

When you bring this to your NJ divorce lawyer consultation, we have the necessary tools to help you get started. Divorce paperwork can be confusing, but we will work through it together.

**Divorce is more than a legal process  
—it's a financial turning point.  
Prepare with purpose to protect  
your fortune and secure your future.**



**Clarity is the first step to confidence—prepare with intention, and your consultation becomes a strategy, not just a conversation.**

## **2. Financial Documents**

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If your marriage has substantial assets, you must also bring financial information, including high-asset divorce documents. However, full financial disclosure regarding divorce in New Jersey is essential. Add the following to your checklist of what to bring:

- Recent pay stubs and income information (for you and your spouse if available)
- The last three to five years of tax returns
- Bank account statements
- Retirement account statements
- Investment portfolios
- Mortgage documents and real estate deeds
- Business ownership documents
- Debts and liabilities

If you are unsure of any of these documents or how to find the necessary paperwork, contact our NJ family law office with your questions. You can call us at any time.



### 3. Assets and Property Overview

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NJ property division is the next component of the process. Marital assets, such as those you acquired during your marriage, will be split equitably under the law. To start working on a plan for you, we encourage you to bring information on:

- All owned real estate
- Vehicles
- Jewelry, art, and other collectibles
- Business interests
- Prenuptial and postnuptial agreements, if any

When it comes to what to bring to divorce consultation meetings, if you are unsure, just bring it. Reach out to us for further clarification.

***Have a question? Call 732-361-4827 for help.***





## 4. Children and Custody Information

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When there are children in your marriage, you need to consider child custody in NJ. Custody falls into two areas, legal and physical. Ideally, when you meet with us during your **child custody consultation in NJ**, we can work out a plan that you and your spouse can agree to, but if not, the court will need to decide. We strongly encourage you to consider all aspects of a custody agreement, including parenting time and child support.

To facilitate this process, make sure you bring the following information with you to your consultation with us:

- Names and birthdates of your children
- School and medical records
- Current custody or visitation schedule
- Child-related expenses (tuition, childcare, health insurance, etc.)

If there are other children in the household or any other circumstances you believe we should know about, take a few minutes to jot those down. We can discuss them during your free consultation to review any specific concerns or questions.

**The way you prepare reflects the outcome you expect—walk into your consultation informed, focused, and one step ahead.**



## **5. Questions to Ask the Attorney**

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The more information you bring, the better. However, this is also an opportunity for you to ask questions. We encourage you to bring any questions you have to the consultation. Write them down on paper to remember them when you get here. You have plenty of time with us to go over any concerns. We are here to help you and have likely heard your question from other clients before.

Here are some questions to help you get started:

- What's your experience with complex or high-asset divorces?
- How is child custody typically handled in NJ?
- What are the next steps after this consultation?
- What documents will I need to gather?
- What's your retainer fee and billing structure?



These questions to ask a divorce and family lawyer in NJ are meant to be conversation starters. During your free family law consultation in NJ, we will provide you with information about our legal team and processes and specific answers to questions about your own situation.

Our extensive experience works in your favor, and your rights are always protected.

## 6. What to Expect During Your Free Consultation

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One of the first things our attorneys will do for you is review the New Jersey divorce and/or child custody process. We will provide you with a summary of what is likely to occur in your case. You can also have the following family law consultation expectations when meeting with us:

- Your confidentiality is assured.
- We provide a high-level review of your situation.
- We will provide you with preliminary legal advice or strategy.
- You will understand a timeline and what will happen throughout the process.
- We will also tell you the next steps.

Preparing for divorce is a big process. Our experience can alleviate many of your frustrations and worries throughout your divorce.





## 7. How to Mentally Prepare for the Divorce Process

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Here are a few more tips to help you when it comes to preparing for divorce emotionally. Remember that we are here to help you develop a NJ divorce strategy that fits your future. Keep the following in mind:

- Be honest about your goals.
- Think about long-term outcomes, not short-term emotions.
- Bring a notepad or folder to take notes.

If you have questions about what to expect during a divorce consultation, contact us immediately for help.

### ***Bonus Tips!***

**Tip 1:** Organize your documents in a folder or digital file.

**Tip 2:** Bring a trusted friend if you feel overwhelmed (if allowed).

**Tip 3:** Write down your biggest concerns ahead of time.





## Contact Zeigler Law Group, LLC Today 732-361-4827

**Sonya K. Zeigler, Esq.** and her team have a well-earned reputation for committed and fierce legal representation. Our firm is here to provide you with the best possible guidance. Call **Zeigler Law Group, LLC** or **complete an online form** to schedule a free consultation.

With offices in Toms River, Red Bank, Princeton, and Mount Laurel, New Jersey, we serve clients throughout the surrounding areas, including Ocean County, Monmouth County, Mercer County, and Burlington County.



**We Can Help You With Your New Beginning**  
Contact Zeigler Law Group, LLC  
Today to Get Started

***The Family and Divorce Lawyers at Zeigler Law Group, LLC Provide  
Experienced Guidance and Support When You Need It Most***

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**732-361-4827**

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