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COLLABORATIVE Practice Tips

A monthly bulletin from the CP Cal Practice Excellence Committee

The Practice Excellence Committee is pleased to offer tips to help you increase your Collaborative cases and achieve *practice excellence.*

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Please send us your comments and questions! Email us at info@cpcal.com

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Tips on What to Address at the First Meeting

Tip #1

Introductions of each of the team members. Each professional describes his/her role in the process, professional background, experience and training and provides his/her contact information.

Tip #2

Talk about the process. Review and contrast all of the divorce options available. Review the ground rules related to the Collaborative process. Explain each spouse's rights and responsibilities. Focus on each spouse's goals, objectives and needs. Identify the need for any experts or other professionals in addition to the team members. Estimate a preliminary time line of the tasks and meetings needed.

Tip #3

Identify any immediate legal, financial or other needs for either spouse and/or the children. Identify the source of funds to pay for divorce professional fees. Suggest that the clients do not rely on legal, financial and tax advice from friends and family. Explain the significance of the date of separation. Review Automatic Temporary Restraining Orders.

Tip #4

Explain the data gathering process. Provide data gathering forms from each of the professionals. Propose a time line for completion of gathering documents and completed forms.

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CP Cal c/o 145 Wild Horse Valley Drive, Novato, CA 94947 415-897-2398 info@cpcal.com