



**COLLABORATIVE TEAM DIVORCE
INFORMED CONSENT FOR INITIAL CONSULTATION MEETING**

Purpose of Initial Consultation

The purpose of the Initial Consultation is to provide education about Collaborative Team Divorce, which may include, but is not limited to, information about the typical process, the professionals involved, the forms included, the benefits and limitations, and the cost. This information will assist you in making informed decisions when choosing the type of divorce process that will work best for you. While the Initial Consultation is often done by a Mental Health Professional, it *does not* constitute psychotherapy. Mental Health Professionals working in Collaborative Team Divorce *do* help consumers improve their ability to communicate and deal with difficult emotions, but they *do not* diagnose or treat mental illness, as occurs in traditional psychotherapy. No written reports or other documentation will be generated as a result of the Initial Consultation, except any surveys or questionnaires completed by you. By participating in an Initial Consultation you are under no obligation or commitments beyond the meeting.

Confidentiality

Any information gathered in the Initial Consultation, including written and verbal information is confidential and can only be released to a third party with your written consent. The exceptions to this are the mandatory reporting of the abuse or neglect of a child or vulnerable adult and situations where it is determined you are a danger to yourself or others. These rights and exceptions are protected by state and federal law. Should you choose a Collaborative Divorce, you will sign a waiver allowing the Collaborative Team members that you choose to communicate openly as part of the process.

By signing below, you agree that if at any time in the future you elect to move into a court process, all written materials and information gathered in this Initial Consultation will remain confidential and will be inadmissible in any court proceedings. You further agree that the Mental Health Professional providing the Initial Consultation will be disqualified as a witness, and that you will not attempt to subpoena or otherwise compel testimony from the Mental health Professional for any purpose.

Fees

Unless otherwise specified, the fee for the initial consultation is \$200 per hour, which is payable at the time of service.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Witness: _____

Date: _____