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Welcome to the class:
"DIVORCE BASICS: PROCESS and the LAW"

While you are waiting for class to begin, please:

- ▶ If possible, watch using a computer, laptop or tablet
- ▶ Mute your audio
- ▶ Print the documents posted at the court's website:
<https://www.santabarbara.courts.ca.gov/divisions/family-law/family-law-zoom-classes>
- ▶ Print and complete the "Property Worksheet"
- ▶ Have a pen and paper available
- ▶ Be ready to start promptly at 8:30 a.m.

Thank you!



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DIVORCE BASICS: PROCESS and the LAW

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
Office of the Family Law Facilitator
Deborah K. Mullin, J.D.

© Santa Barbara County Superior Court 2022

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FAMILY LAW FACILITATOR:
What can we do for you?



- Court attorney who can help you better represent yourself
- Available to either side
- Nothing is confidential
- Can help you with legal papers
- Can help you with service of the legal papers
- Can help with the filing of papers
- FLF does **not** go to court with you
- FLF does **not** represent you

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GOALS FOR THIS CLASS:

- Understand the **divorce process**—what steps you need to take and when
- Understand the **basic law** in the different issue areas, such as custody, support, property—so you understand your options
- Gain **important pointers** on how to fill out your forms correctly—so you can save time

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Want to get divorced?



- ▶ One spouse must file the **correct** legal papers with the **correct** court
- ▶ The legal papers must be **correctly** served (given) to the other spouse
- ▶ One or both spouses must do their **correct** financial disclosures
- ▶ Resolve your issues: (Default, mutual agreement or trial?)
 - ▶ Custody and visitation
 - ▶ Child support
 - ▶ Spousal support
 - ▶ Property division: Both assets and debts
- ▶ File the **correct** documents in the **correct** manner to get your Judgment

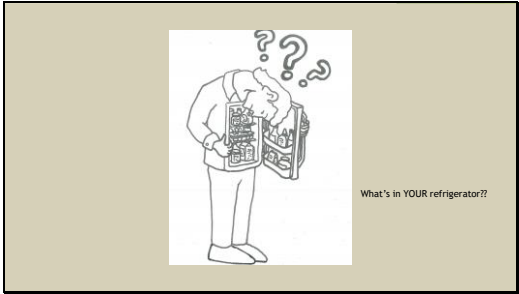
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Before I think about filing for divorce...




- ▶ Have we tried marriage counseling?
- ▶ Do I have copies of all our important legal and financial documents—in a safe place?
- ▶ Have I run a credit check?
www.annualcreditreport.com
- ▶ Do I need to make estate planning changes?

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Do I need an attorney????



- ▶ Hire an attorney: "YOU do it!"
- ▶ Limited scope representation: "I can do part of it!"
- ▶ Mediation: "I want to work on the divorce amicably with my partner."
- ▶ Self-represented: "I can do this!"

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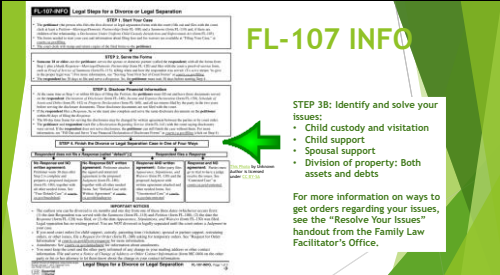
Let's check out the following legal forms:

- ▶ FORMS:
 - ▶ FL-107 INFO SHEET
 - ▶ FL-110 SUMMONS
 - ▶ FL-100 PETITION
 - ▶ FL-105 Declaration Under UCC/JEA
- ▶ FILING FEE:
 - ▶ S435: Cash, check, money order or credit card
 - ▶ FW-001 Request to Waive Court Fees
 - ▶ FW-003 Order on Court Fee Waiver
- ▶ GET MORE INFORMATION:
<https://www.courts.ca.gov/1229.htm>



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FL-107 INFO



STEP 3B: Identify and solve your issues:

- Child custody and visitation
- Child support
- Spousal support
- Division of property: Both assets and debts

For more information on ways to get orders regarding your issues, see the "Resolve Your Issues" handout from the Family Law Facilitator's Office.

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Pull that wagon to completion!

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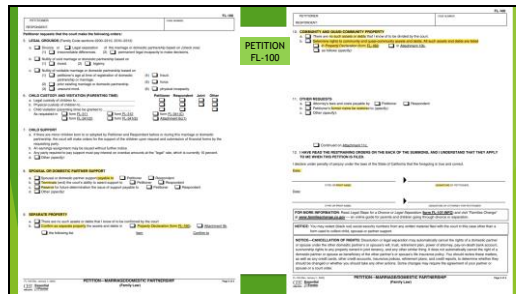
DATE OF SEPARATION ...hmmm

- ▶ When did I know in my heart of hearts that our marriage was over?
- ▶ When did I communicate this to my spouse?
- ▶ When did we physically separate?



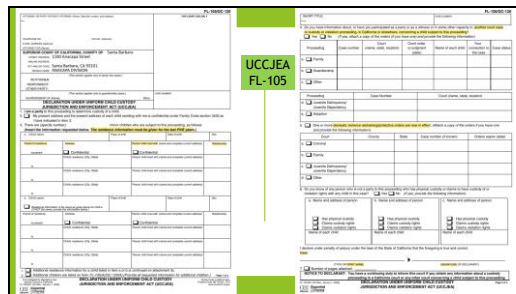
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PETITION FL-100



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UCC/JEA FL-105



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NEXT STEP: Filing your documents

1. Filing fee = \$435 (payable to Santa Barbara Superior Court Clerk) or qualify for fee waiver
2. File in person M - F 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
3. FAX: file to Clerk's Office at 805.832-4319, 511 page. Use MC-005.
4. E-File your documents through a private filing provider (eFile on the court's website), \$ to provider for e-filing
5. Drop off the original and 2 copies to the security guard at the Fiscal Division of the court. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope for return of copies.
6. Mail the original and 2 copies to the Clerk's Office. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope for return of copies.

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MC-005 FAX coversheet

INSERT 3-digit security code

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Service!

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Thank you.

For further assistance, please:
call 805.882.4660
or email us at SBFLF@sbcourts.org
Check us out at
<https://www.santabarbara.courts.ca.gov>

*And remember...
it will get better.*