



LAW OFFICE OF
LASHEENA M. WILLIAMS



Divorce in Maryland

A Guide for Protecting Your Family and Your Future

Serving Montgomery County, Prince George's County, Howard County, Frederick County, and surrounding areas

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Introduction

Divorce is a major life transition, and it can be one of the most challenging experiences a person faces. At the Law Office of LaSheena M. Williams, we are committed to guiding our clients through the divorce process with compassion, skill, and unwavering advocacy.

Serving families throughout Maryland — including Montgomery County, Prince George's County, Howard County, Frederick County, and surrounding areas — we understand the importance of protecting your future. This guide is designed to provide a clear overview of the Maryland divorce process and help you take the next steps with confidence.

LaSheena M. Williams



Maryland Divorce Overview

To file for divorce in Maryland, one spouse must have lived in the state for at least six months before filing.

Maryland now allows no-fault divorce through

Mutual Consent Divorce
(with a written settlement agreement)



6-Month Separation
(even if living in the same home, as long as lives are separate)



All divorces are filed with the Circuit Court in the county where either party lives. Once filed, you must serve your spouse, and then the case progresses through stages like scheduling, mediation, and possibly trial.

Whether your case is simple or complex, our firm can help make sure you understand every right and obligation.

Custody & Parenting Plans

When children are involved, the court's top priority is the best interest of the child. Maryland encourages both parents to participate in raising their children, and will consider:



Each parent's ability to provide a stable, nurturing home



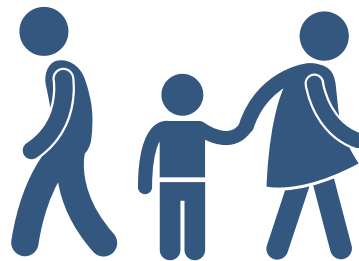
The child's relationship with each parent



School, health, and emotional needs



Past involvement in parenting



Any history of abuse, neglect, or instability

Parenting Plans are often required and should include schedules, decision-making, transportation, and how disagreements will be resolved. In contested custody cases, the court may order evaluations, mediation, or appointment of a Best Interest Attorney.

Dividing Property & Finances

Maryland follows an equitable distribution model for dividing marital property. This doesn't always mean a 50/50 split, but a division the court considers fair.

Property includes



Assets acquired during the marriage



Retirement accounts



Real estate



Debts, loans, and credit card balances

The court will also address



Alimony (temporary, rehabilitative, or indefinite)

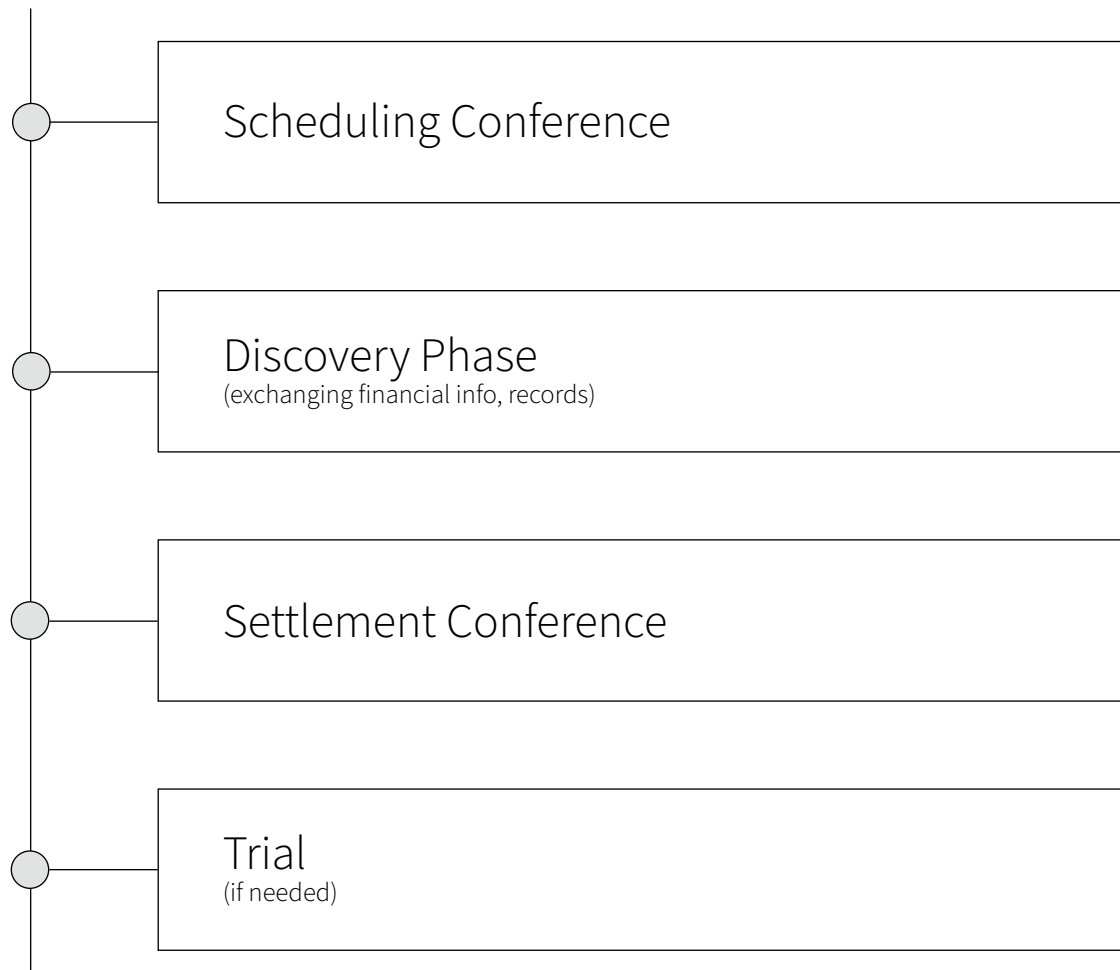


Child support (based on state guidelines using income, custody time, and other expenses)

We help you identify marital vs. non-marital property and advocate for the financial arrangements that best support your future.

Mediation, Hearings, & Timeline

Maryland courts often refer couples to mediation before trial — especially in custody or property disputes. If you reach agreement, you may avoid court altogether.



Uncontested divorces can conclude within a few months. Contested divorces may take a year or longer, especially if custody or assets are complex. Throughout each step, we guide our clients through negotiation and, if necessary, courtroom litigation.

Statewide Family Resources

No matter where you live in Maryland, you can access helpful legal and family resources, including:



Maryland Judiciary
Self-Help Center
www.mdcourts.gov/selfhelp



Legal Aid Maryland
888-465-2468



Pro Bono Resource Center
of Maryland
www.probonomd.org



House of Ruth
(for survivors of domestic violence)
888-880-7884



Parenting Education Programs
required in most counties with
custody issues



Court Mediation Programs
Available in every Circuit Court

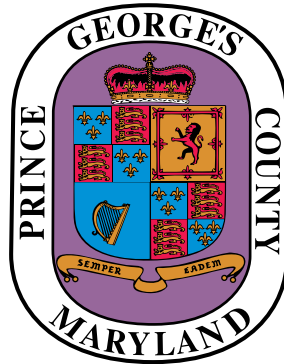
We can help you locate and access programs in your specific county.

Counties We Serve

Our firm provides family law representation throughout Maryland, including:



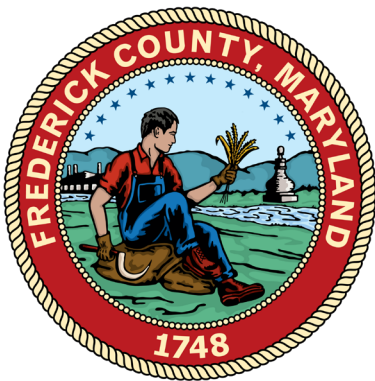
Montgomery County



Prince George's County



Howard County



Frederick County



Baltimore City & County




Charles, Anne Arundel, and
Carroll Counties

We are also available for virtual consultations statewide. No matter where your case is filed, we are equipped to support you.

How Our Firm Can Help

The Law Office of LaSheena M. Williams provides skilled, personalized legal services for individuals navigating divorce and custody matters in Maryland. Our approach combines legal precision with emotional intelligence — because your life isn't just a case number.



Draft and review
separation agreements

Litigate custody, alimony,
or property disputes

Navigate
high-conflict divorce

File for protective orders
or emergency relief

Modify or enforce existing
court orders

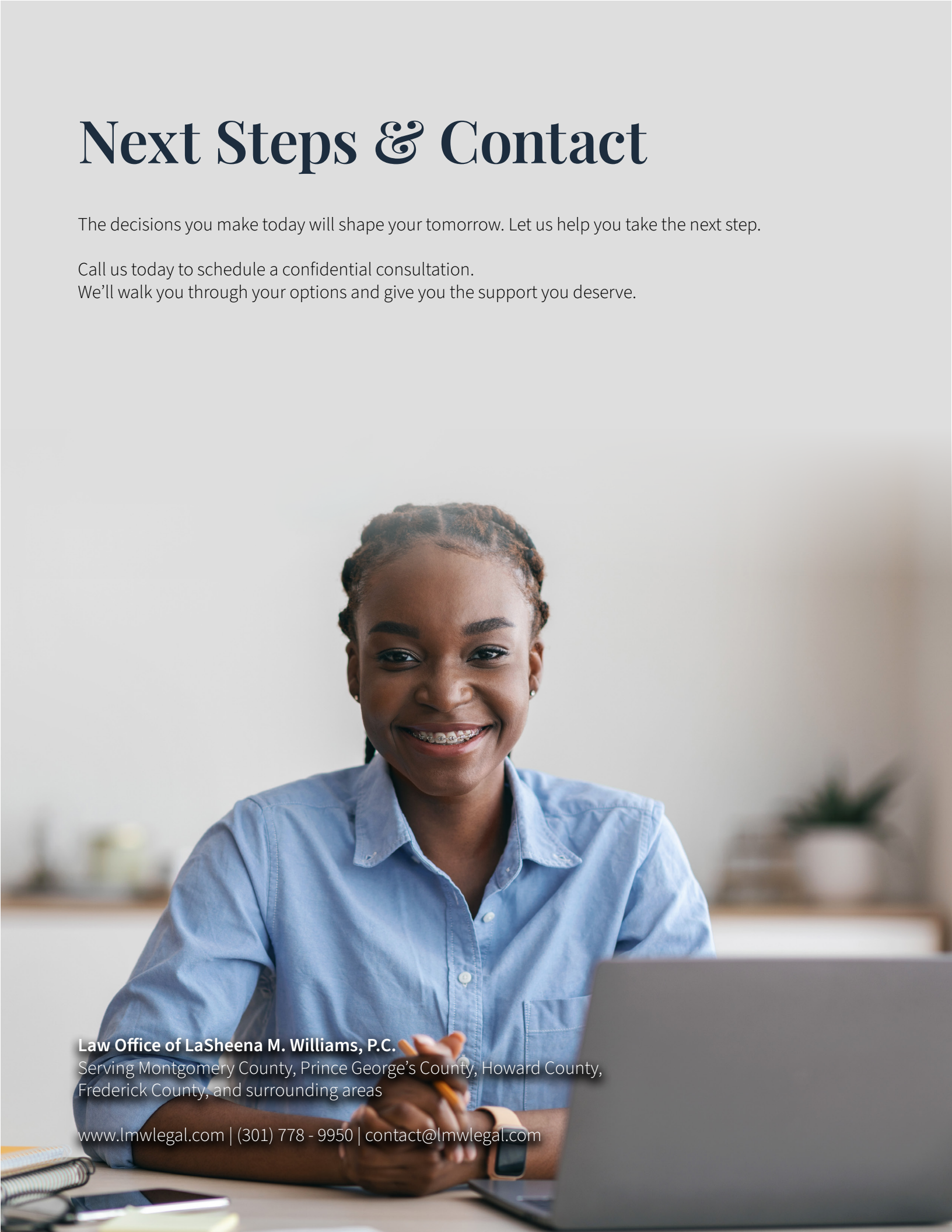
We're here to help you rebuild with strength and clarity.

Next Steps & Contact

The decisions you make today will shape your tomorrow. Let us help you take the next step.

Call us today to schedule a confidential consultation.

We'll walk you through your options and give you the support you deserve.



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