

Divorce Checklist:

Get Ready for the Family Centered Case Resolution Conference

Help for Victims of Domestic Violence

You may qualify for social services. To find out, call **211** from any land line phone in Los Angeles County. There are domestic violence shelters and other resources to help you ask for a court order to protect you or other people in your home.

This form is a checklist of information needed in many divorce cases. It is *not* legal advice. The court cannot give you legal advice. You may use this form to help you prepare for the Family-Centered Case Resolution Conference (FCCRC).

If you do not have a lawyer, it's up to you to:

- Learn the court's rules,
- Be ready on your court date, and
- Fill out your forms and papers correctly.

The court may not give you more time to prepare your case. You must present admissible evidence to support your requests at the hearing. If you fail to present admissible evidence the court will deny your request.

If you say:	Get this Information
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(Check when done. Cross out if not applicable.)

☐ You have community real property , but no agreement to sell the property.	Get a copy of these documents: ✓ The title papers. ✓ The most recent mortgage statement, and ✓ An appraisal from a licensed real estate appraiser (if you do not agree about the value of the property).
☐ You invested your own money (separate property) in this community real property .	Get a copy of the documents that show your investment, such as cancelled checks, bank statements, and escrow closing papers.
☐ You own part of your spouse's separate real property , such as a house bought before you married.	Get proof of this information: ✓ The purchase price. ✓ The down payment. ✓ How much money you paid to pay off the mortgage balance: ▪ before the marriage, and ▪ during the marriage. ✓ The fair market value on: ▪ the date of your marriage, and ▪ close to the date of trial. ✓ Include any other documents (cancelled checks, bank records) that prove community funds or your separate funds were used to add value to the property.
☐ There are community debts .	Get proof of the amount of debt on or close to the date of separation (loan papers, credit card statements).

☐ You have an interest in your spouse's business.	Get financial statements and records for the business. You may want to hire an expert to value the business.
☐ Your spouse is hiding assets.	You must show proof, such as records from financial institutions, title documents, or witnesses.
☐ You have expenses that must be reimbursed , like court-ordered medical costs for the children.	Get proof of your costs and your payment, such as the bill and your cancelled check.
☐ You and the other parent do not agree on basic facts about child custody.	Try to get statements from schools, medical offices, appointments, or other information to support the facts as you see them.
☐ You are worried about child custody because the other parent abuses you, the child, drugs or alcohol.	Try to get proof, such as law enforcement reports, records from court, probation, social welfare or health care agencies, photos or witnesses.
☐ You are a victim of domestic violence.	Try to get proof of injury, like police reports, medical records or photos of injuries; or proof of other kinds of abuse, like photos, emails, text messages, etc.

? For questions, help, or forms....

- Visit your local court's self-help center.
- Talk to a lawyer or a qualified document preparer.
- Get forms and self-help information at www.lacourt.org.