



- 1 Are you aware of your rights should you encounter difficulties in your marriage?
- 2 Do you know the options available to you in the event of a breakdown in relations?
- 3 What are the practical steps for each different option?
- 4 What should you do first to begin resolving the situation?

How can we help?

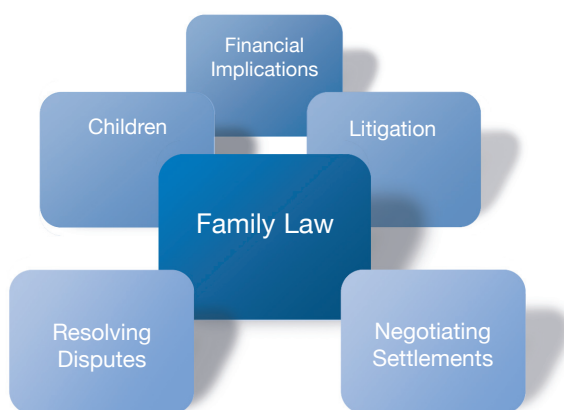
As a business law firm, Mason Hayes+Curran has traditionally offered a comprehensive range of legal services to its business clients. Having observed how Irish society is changing and developing, the firm has now identified the need to develop services for individual clients which are complementary to the firm's overall business law service. In this regard, Mason Hayes+Curran has established an innovative new service called MH+C Private.

MH+C Private aims to provide sophisticated private law services to cater for the individual requirements of Ireland's successful business owners, senior executives and leading professionals. This includes services such as wealth protection, wills and probate, trusts and administration of estates, residential conveyancing and family law.

With today's fast paced way of life it is inevitable that pressures can and do build up and a breakdown in family relations may occur. At times like this it is imperative that you seek experienced, yet discreet, professional advice on the next steps to take. The family law unit of MH+C Private has an experienced team capable of offering a full range of legal services to both married and co-habiting couples whose relationships have encountered difficulties. The team prides itself on the quality of its advice and on its ability to chart a practical and results-orientated way through these sensitive times.

Family law is a complex and developing area of law where the outcome of a case depends on the individual circumstances of the situation. It is therefore vital that you have an experienced family lawyer acting on your behalf with the ability and expertise to advise on both contentious and non-contentious matters.





to pursue such litigation in a vigorous manner until a satisfactory conclusion is achieved for the client.

Financial Implications

The financial implications of a settlement can be one of the most challenging aspects to deal with in order to achieve the agreement of both parties. In this regard, it is imperative that the family law team investigate the financial position of both parties fully. By doing this and by engaging with specialist pension, tax and financial advisors, the team can negotiate the best possible outcome for the client.

Conclusion

Family law is a complex area of the law and one that requires experienced lawyers who understand and appreciate the unique circumstances that specific cases may bring. The family law unit at Mason Hayes+Curran is a team with this experience and one that aims to work with clients to find creative solutions to otherwise difficult and often emotional circumstances.

The team understand and appreciate the often traumatic nature of family law cases and client's desire for discretion at all times. A distinct set of security measures have therefore been designed to ensure that this confidentiality is maintained at all times. This includes maintaining absolute confidentiality from the remainder of Mason Hayes+Curran.

The family law team have many years' experience providing clients with advice and support in this area and aim to resolve matters as speedily as possible and without resorting to court proceedings. We understand the range of emotions that can take place and offer support and clear practical advice at all times. Whilst the majority of cases do settle outside of court, clients can be reassured by the fact that should litigation proceedings commence the family law unit have the expertise to ensure that their clients interests are looked after at all times and that proceedings will be pursued as rigorously possible.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of this service with a member of the family law team, please do not hesitate to contact us using the details below.

Resolving Disputes

The breakdown of a relationship can be one of the most traumatic events that people face in their lives. The family law unit has a deep understanding that, in circumstances of marital and relationship breakdown, stress, grief, fear, bitterness, anger and a whole range of negative emotions can be normal for both parties and that these emotions must be dealt with and managed as part of the process of resolving disputes arising from a relationship breakdown. By understanding this unique aspect of family law and by giving our clients clear and practical advice at all times, the team strive to ensure that the stress caused to clients during the process of relationship breakdown is minimised to the greatest possible extent at all times.

The family law team ensure that clients are aware of all the dispute resolution options available to them at the outset, so that they can make informed decisions as to the best course of action for them. The client will be offered appropriate and practical advice on options such as counselling, mediation, negotiated separation agreements in order to seek an early, effective and cost effective resolution of the issues.

Negotiating Settlements

The team's focus is always on settlement without the necessity of having to go to court. This is best achieved by adopting a non-confrontational approach in dealing with the client spouse's legal advisors, as nothing is gained by adopting an aggressive or confrontational stance. In reality, over 90% of all family law cases are ultimately settled by agreement. It is important to realise that it is always in the client's best interests to reduce the hostility between the parties and thus allow the possibility of an early settlement of the case.

Children

It is universally recognised that in all family law matters the interests of the child is paramount. In most cases this does not present a difficulty, however the team offer specialist experience in order to achieve a creative solution in circumstances where the welfare of the child may be put at risk during the course of a family law dispute.

Litigation

Whilst all efforts are made to resolve matters amicably, sometimes litigation becomes the only option in order to achieve a fair and reasonable outcome for a client. If a family law matter becomes contentious, it is the view of the family law unit that the client is best served if the litigation is concluded as quickly as possible. It is practice therefore



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