



2024

Family Law Service & Pricing Guide

LD Lawyers

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Hello & Welcome



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Understanding This Service Guide

The intention behind this service guide is to provide a transparent, comprehensive overview of my family law services. I firmly believe that an informed client is an empowered one, and I've crafted this document with that sentiment in mind.

Whether you're engaging with my services for the first time or you've returned to work with me again, this guide is designed to answer your questions, clarify my offerings, and ensure every interaction you have is seamless and insightful.

Services Overview

Here's a snapshot of the services I offer



01. Mediation

Families must try mediation before going to court for issues including parenting or property disputes. Mediation aims to resolve conflicts through facilitated negotiation, reducing the need for costly and adversarial court proceedings.

02. Parenting Disputes

Parenting disputes involve disagreements over issues such as parental responsibility, who the child will live with and spends time with. The court seeks to resolve these conflicts in the best interests of the child, prioritising their welfare and well-being above all else.

03. Property Disputes

A property settlement involves the division of assets and liabilities accumulated during a relationship or marriage, aiming for a fair and equitable distribution between the parties involved. The process typically resolves financial matters such as the division of real estate, savings, investments, and debts, guided by legal principles and negotiations.

04. Binding Financial Agreements

A binding financial agreement ("BFA") is a legal document outlining how assets, liabilities, and financial resources will be divided in the event of a relationship breakdown or divorce, providing parties with certainty and control over their financial arrangements outside of court proceedings. It requires independent legal advice for both parties and must meet specific legal requirements to be enforceable. A BFA can be entered into before, during or after a relationship.

05. Divorce

A Divorce order is a legal decree that officially terminates a marriage.

This court-issued order marks the end of the marital relationship, providing closure and legal clarity to the parties involved.

06. Legal Aid

I am on the Legal Aid panel and readily accept mediation grants for property and children matters.

I accept a limited number of litigation grants and these are considered on a case by case basis.

The Process

for non-litigated family law matters



Introduction

When families face issues such as parenting arrangements or property disputes, there's a process in place to help sort things out without going to court right away. It's all about talking things through, finding common ground, and reaching agreements that work for everyone involved. With support from legal experts and mediators, families can navigate these challenges together, aiming for fair and positive outcomes while keeping stress levels as low as possible.

Here's What The Process Can Look Like

01. Separation

As the journey of separation begins, emotions may run high. It's important to prioritise self-care and seek support from friends, family, or counseling services.

03. Collecting Financial Information

Before mediation, both parties gather financial information relevant to the property settlement. This may include details about assets, debts, income, and expenses. While this step may feel daunting, it's essential for achieving a fair and equitable division of property. Remember, transparency and honesty pave the way for constructive negotiations and lasting resolutions.

02. Seeking Early Legal Advice

Consulting with a family law lawyer can provide clarity and guidance during this uncertain time. Understanding your rights and options empowers you to make informed decisions for your future.

04. Negotiation and Mediation

In the spirit of finding amicable solutions, negotiation and mediation offer opportunities for open communication and compromise. It's a chance to voice concerns, listen to each other's perspectives, and work towards mutually beneficial agreements.

05. Drafting Agreements

Crafting agreements with legal professionals ensures that your wishes are documented clearly and legally binding. These agreements lay the groundwork for a smoother transition and provide a sense of security moving forward.

The Process

When Court proceedings are required



Introduction

At the heart of every memorable brand lies a powerful logo. It's not just a graphic; it's the visual embodiment of a brand's personality, values, and ambitions. In my approach to logo design, I prioritize creating symbols that encapsulate your brand's essence and forge a lasting connection with your audience.

Here's How The Process Looks Like

01.

Consideration of Court Proceedings

Contemplating court proceedings can feel overwhelming, but remember that it's a step taken with careful consideration and as a last resort to resolve contentious issues.

03.

Interim Hearings

During interim hearings, the court acknowledges the urgency of certain matters and strives to provide swift, temporary solutions to alleviate any immediate concerns.

03.

Mediation and Dispute Resolution

Court-referred mediation underscores the importance of finding common ground and reaching agreements outside of the courtroom. It's an opportunity for collaboration and understanding amidst differences.

02.

Issuing Court Application

This process involves preparing and submitting necessary documents, which can take some time to draft accurately. While it may feel daunting, it's a step towards seeking clarity and resolution with the guidance of legal professionals.

04.

Case Management Conferences

These conferences aim to foster constructive dialogue between parties, offering support and encouragement as you navigate the complexities of the legal process.

04.

Final Hearing

Should the parties not be able to reach a consent position, a final hearing is the only way to have the matter determined. The Court will consider all the evidence available and parties will be cross-examined.

Fees

no court proceedings

01. Stage 1 \$2,500

Getting to know you. Initial consultation, background of your matter, evidence around any family violence, discussions about the family law process, determining how we proceed.

02. Financial Disclosure \$3,500

IF the matter is a property settlement, Review, exchange and analysis of the disclosure.

03. Preparing an Offer \$2,500

Prepare and exchange an offer of settlement

04. Settlement Negotiating \$2,500

Negotiating the terms of settlement

05. Mediation \$3,500 per mediation

There is likely to be the need to attend mediation or other dispute resolution before commencing proceedings. This stage will include all preparation and attendance at mediation. Ideally this occurs as early into the process as possible.

06. Finalising your Agreement

Once an agreement has been reached, we can prepare and file the necessary documents with the Court.

Property: \$4,400
Children: \$4,400
Children & Property: \$5,500

Fees- Court

01. Court Application \$8,500

Preparing and filing your Application and Affidavit in support, Notice of Risk and Financial Statement or your Response and required documents.

02. Initial Directions Hearing \$1,500

Attendance and work involved in attending the initial directions hearing.

03. Interim Hearing \$5,500

This stage will include all preparation and attendance at the interim hearing. It does not include any fees associated with briefing a Barrister.

04. Dispute Resolution prior to a Final Hearing \$4,500

There may be several further requirements to attend a mediation or other dispute resolution throughout the proceedings. This stage includes all preparation and attendance at mediation and is charged for each mediation.

05. Preparation for a Final Hearing \$9,500

Preparation for final hearing including: preparing and filing updated affidavits, updating proposals, issuing subpoena, obtaining and filing all further evidence on which we intend to rely in the final hearing. Preparing and serving all further necessary documentation. Hiring and coordinating with the barrister and preparing brief for barrister, in preparation for final hearing.

06. Final Hearing \$3,500 per day

Attending final hearing, including travel costs, attendance at court on all days of the final hearing, final instructions from client, coordinating with barrister.
Does not include the fees associated with briefing a Barrister

Additional Fees



Child Impact Report

PRICE:
\$440 p/h

- Arranging for a Child Impact Report to be conducted
- Communication with private report writer
- Reading and reviewing the report
- Advice moving forward

Family Report

PRICE:
\$440 p/h

- Arranging for a Family Report to be conducted
- Communication with private report writer
- Reading and reviewing the report
- Advice moving forward

Additional Court Mentions

PRICE:
\$550

- Attendance and work involved in attending additional mention dates.

Subpoenas

PRICE:
\$249 per subpoena

- Issuing subpoena's
- Reviewing subpoena material
- does not include subpoena conduct money

Any other work

PRICE:
\$440 p/h

- Any additional work that is brought to our attending during the proceedings.

Divorce Applications

01. Sole Application

No Court Appearance: \$1,100 (incl GST)

An application made for divorce by one party to the marriage.

Court Appearance: \$1,980 (incl GST)

A Court appearance is required if there are children under 18 years. This is so the Court can be assured there are adequate provisions being made for the Children.



02. Joint Applications

No Court Appearance: \$1,000 (incl GST)

This is an application made by both parties to the marriage.

Court Appearance: \$1,650 (incl GST)

A court appearance may be required in some circumstances

Binding Financial Agreements

01. Draft & Advice

- “Pre-nup” simple: \$7,700.
- “Pre-nup” complex: \$11,000
- Post Separation- Simple: \$5,500
- Post Separation- Complex: \$7,700



02. Review and Advice

- “Pre-nup” simple: \$3,300.
- “Pre-nup” complex: \$5,500
- Post Separation- Simple: \$2,500
- Post Separation- Complex: \$3,300

Important Disclaimer

Following your initial consultation, we will provide you with an individualised fee which may vary from the fees contained in this document.

At the initial consultation we will advise you of the scope of our fixed fee retainer, what are costs are included and excluded and whether there may be any potential additional expenses. In the event your matter becomes more complex than anticipated and additional work is required beyond the scope of our fixed fee agreement, we will provide you with an updated cost estimate for you to consider before continuing with any additional work.

The fixed fee pricing does not include the costs of any necessary disbursements. We will not incur any disbursements without first obtaining your permission. These costs will be payable by you as they fall due.

Disbursements may be necessary in your matter and they include, but are not limited to, court filing fees, title searches, process serving fees, third party reports, subpoena costs. If a barrister is required, or you wish to engage a barrister, the fixed fees do not include the costs charged by the barrister or our costs to prepare a brief for a barrister.

Barristers charge various fees dependent upon their experience, reputation, and skill. We will ensure you are fully informed of the costs of the barrister before any expense is incurred.



Ready to Start?

If you've got a clear vision and are eager to kickstart your project, let's dive in!

Fill out the enquiry form at
WWW.LDLAWYERS.COM.AU

If you're still in the exploration phase or have more questions, no worries at all.

Send any questions you have at:



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