Easterling Family Law Publishes Guide to Collaborative Divorce for North Carolina Families

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Easterling Family Law, PLLC has published a free public guide explaining collaborative divorce, an approach that allows couples to resolve separation matters through cooperation and negotiation rather than courtroom conflict. The resource is intended for North Carolina families who may be unfamiliar with the options available beyond a contested court process.

Many couples facing the end of a marriage assume that litigation is the only path forward. The new guide addresses that gap in understanding by walking readers through what collaborative divorce is, how the process works in the state, who is typically involved, and how it differs from both litigation and mediation. It also helps readers consider whether the approach may be a fit for their circumstances.

"Many people going through a divorce don't realize there are options other than a contested court process," said Lindsey Easterling, Founder of Easterling Family Law. "The guide was written to help families understand those options before making decisions."

The guide explains that in a collaborative divorce, each spouse retains an attorney, and both parties agree to

work toward a settlement outside of court. The process may also include other professionals, such as financial specialists or child specialists, who help the couple reach informed decisions. Because the discussions take place in private sessions rather than a public courtroom, the approach can offer families more privacy and greater control over the final outcome.

The resource outlines the typical steps involved in a Collaborative Divorce in North Carolina, from the initial agreement to work cooperatively through the negotiation of parenting, financial, and property matters. It describes how this structure can help preserve working relationships between parents, which can be especially meaningful when children are involved.

The guide is candid about the fact that collaborative divorce is not appropriate for every situation. It notes that cases involving a significant power imbalance or safety concerns may be better served by other legal avenues. By presenting both the benefits and the limitations, the resource aims to give readers a balanced understanding before they choose a direction.

A frequently asked questions section addresses common topics, including how the timeline and cost of a collaborative process can compare to traditional litigation and how the approach may work for couples with children. The material is written in plain language so that readers navigating a difficult time can follow the information without prior legal knowledge.

"Our goal with this guide is education, not persuasion," Easterling added. "When families understand the full range of choices in front of them, they are better equipped to make decisions that fit their lives."

Easterling Family Law, the practice of Easterling Law, PLLC, is a full-service family law firm serving Charlotte and surrounding North Carolina communities, including Matthews, Ballantyne, Waxhaw, Weddington, Marvin, Indian Trail, Mint Hill, Myers Park and SouthPark. The firm handles separation, divorce, child custody and support, alimony, property division, mediation, prenuptial agreements and domestic violence matters, with an emphasis on collaborative law and resolving disputes outside of court whenever possible. Founded by Lindsey Easterling and based in Charlotte, North Carolina, the firm takes a holistic approach to each family's needs. Learn more at easterlingfamilylaw.com.

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Easterling Family Law, PLLC

Easterling Family Law provide legal services regarding family dynamics. We help clients to achieve a non-litigated resolution of any disputes that arise.

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