

## How Much Does it Cost to File for Divorce in Alabama?

It is very difficult to determine what the final cost of a divorce will be, especially if it is contested. Situations with children or having a spouse involved in the military may require more time to settle. We do our very best to keep your costs low by relying on the strengths of our staff members in drafting necessary documents and communicating information with our clients. We also use the latest technology to work as efficiently as possible and reduce costs.

In some cases, we may be able to demand that your spouse payment options.



SCHEDULE A CONSULTATION NOW

**CALL US:** 256-518-9529



**♀** 415-E Church Street NW #10 Huntsville, AL 35801 **\$\)** 256-518-9529

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Disclaimer: "No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers."



## New Life. **New Direction.** New Beginnings.

**SUPPORTIVE FAMILY LAW ATTORNEYS** WHO PUT YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR FUTURE FIRST



NEW BEGINNINGS FAMILY LAW MISSION STATEMENT

We exist to glorify God by serving His kids, protecting families and children from the conflict of divorce and custody disputes, propelling clients into a new life following the pain of traumatic family law situations, and growing families through surrogacy and adoption.



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Going through a divorce is one of the most stressful challenges you will ever have to deal with. Worries about your finances and your children can dominate your life and make it hard to focus on anything else. Then there's the wave of emotions that can come crashing down at any moment.

During this difficult time, it is essential that you work with a seasoned divorce lawyer who can make you feel comfortable and confident about your future. At New Beginnings Family Law, our team has more than a decade of experience helping people navigate the complicated divorce process. You can trust our skilled family law attorneys to:

- Objectively review the details of divorce to help you make decisions based on reason rather than emotions
- Put your best interest first in any contested divorce or uncontested divorce
- Create achievable goals for handling division of assets, child custody, child support, alimony, and other crucial matters
- Aggressively negotiate on contentious issues to try to reach an agreement through mediation
- Be by your side through any appeals process or modification hearings
- Provide strong courtroom representation if your divorce case must go to trial
- Keep our focus on doing what's in the best interest of your children
- Always be available to talk or answer any questions you have about your case
- Show genuine sympathy and understanding for what you are going through, both men and women – because we have all been in your shoes
- Help walk you through any issues with postnuptial agreements & prenuptial agreements

## What are the Grounds for Divorce in Alabama?

The divorce process begins with the filing of a complaint, which states the reason why the filing party (known as the plaintiff) wishes to end the marriage. If you live in Huntsville, you would file your complaint with the clerk of the Madison County Circuit Court.

If you are not citing incompatibility or the irretrievable breakdown of the marriage, you will need to present evidence that one of the following grounds for divorce has occurred:

- Voluntary abandonment for a period of one year
- Living separate and apart for a period of at least two years
- Adultery
- Domestic violence
- Being addicted to habitual drunkenness or habitual use of morphine, opium, cocaine, or another drug after the marriage
- Imprisonment for two years with a sentence of at least seven years
- Commission of a crime against nature either before or after marriage
- Hopeless and incurable insanity with confinement in a mental hospital for a period of five years
- Physical and incurable incapacitation at the time of marriage
- Pregnancy at the time of marriage, with the spouse not being the father

## How Long Does the Alabama Divorce Process Take?

Each divorce presents its own unique set of facts and circumstances that can affect the amount of time it takes to resolve each issue. A relatively short marriage with modest marital property and no children will settle much more quickly than a 30-year marriage with children and sizable marital assets.

Here are some of the factors that will affect how long your divorce will take:

- If one party to the divorce is not a resident of Alabama, the filing party must be a resident of Alabama for at least six months prior to filing for divorce. (If both parties are residents of the state of Alabama, a divorce can be filed at any time.)
- Once the complaint is filed, Alabama law requires a minimum 30-day waiting period before a divorce is granted.
- If the other spouse files an answer to the complaint raising allegations of marital misconduct, the process could take significantly longer.
- The parties must try to agree to the terms of child support, child custody, visitation, the division of marital property, and alimony. Reaching such an agreement may be tedious, and a judge may order mediation if the parties cannot agree.
- Divorce can be time-consuming, emotionally exhausting, and financially draining. Appeals and modifications can take even longer. At New Beginnings, our divorce attorneys can help you make the best of a difficult situation by offering sound advice and wise counsel. Contact us today to schedule a consultation.

At New Beginnings, our legal team can honestly say "we've been there." We know how difficult divorce is, and we are ready to fight for the best possible outcome in your case. Please contact us today for more information about our services.

