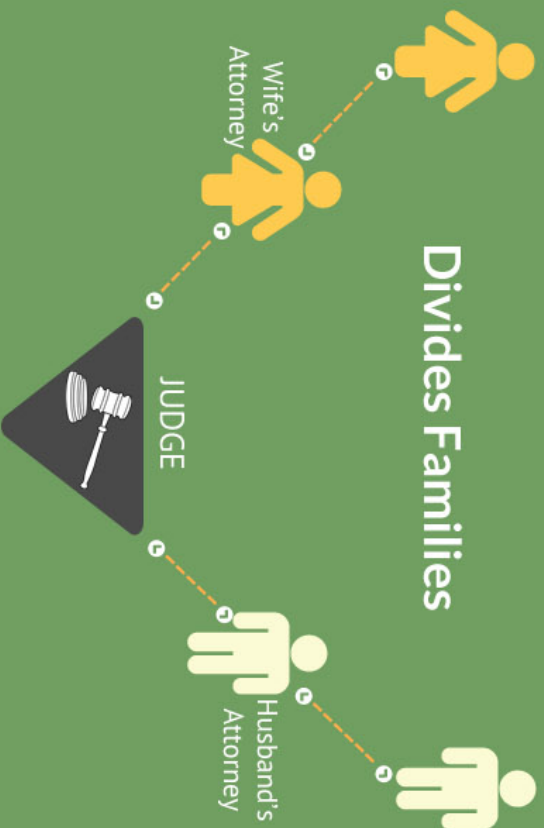


COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE IS A BETTER OPTION

DIVORCE LITIGATION

promotes bitterness and anger

Divides Families



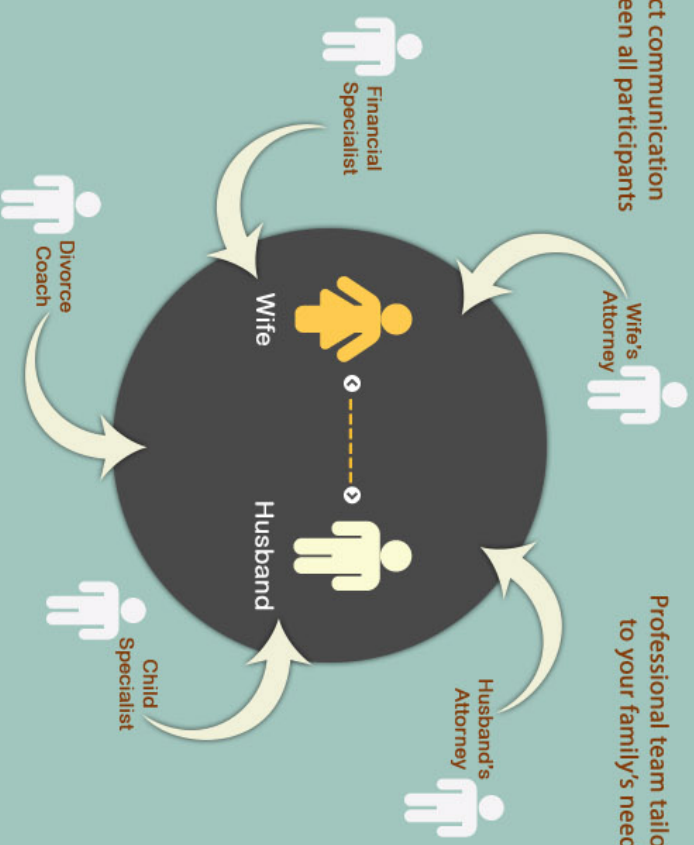
VS

COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE

promotes dignity and respect

Direct communication
between all participants

Professional team tailored
to your family's needs



URBAN COLLABORATIVE
DIVORCE LAW FIRM LLC

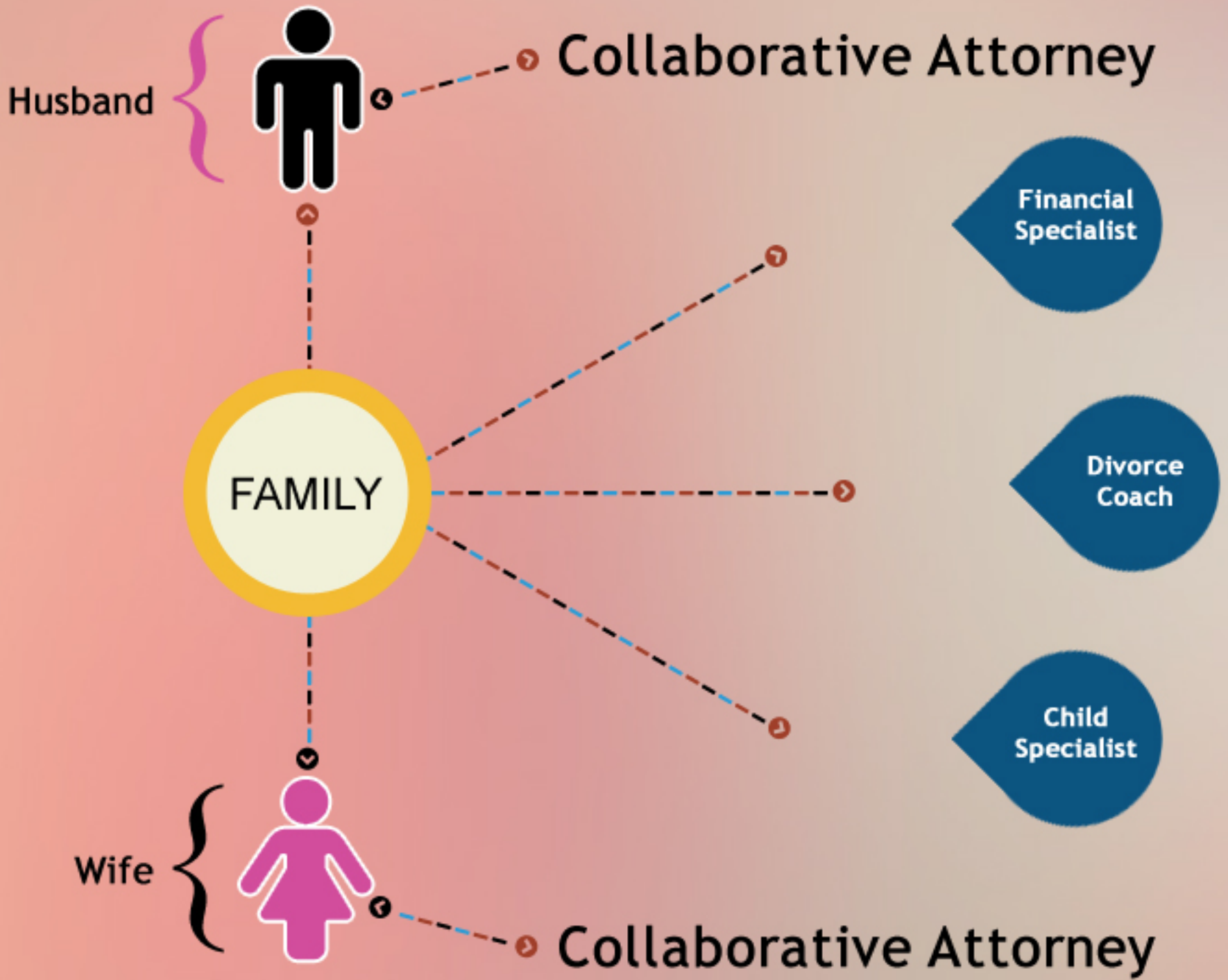
www.urbanfamilylaw.com

COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE

...a better option

The DIVORCE FOR SOLUTIONS YOU CONTROL

Collaborative Divorce focuses on GOALS and CHILDREN



TRADITIONAL LITIGATION



MORE COST
MORE HOSTILITY
LESS CONTROL OF PROCESS or DECISIONS

Anna-Maria Pittella, Esquire
Attorney / Collaborative Family Practitioner / Accredited Mediator

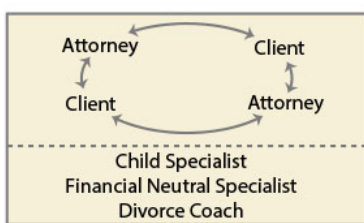
CALL AT (732) 842-6939
www.pittellalaw.com

Processes for Resolving Divorce Issues

Processes vary in terms of cost, time, client empowerment, protecting children and transformation of the family as marriage ends.

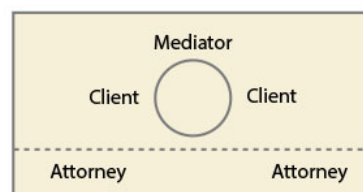
Collaborative Practice

- ❖ Each spouse hires a collaboratively trained attorney
- ❖ Team with other collaborative professionals
- ❖ May include divorce coach, financial and child specialist
- ❖ Separate meetings may be held with team professionals
- ❖ No court while process is in place
- ❖ Emphasis on dignity and respect
- ❖ Transparency and full disclosure required
- ❖ Settlement is the common focus



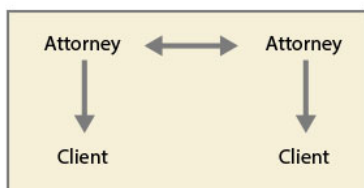
Mediation

- ❖ Mediator facilitates discussion as neutral
- ❖ Empowers clients to reach agreements
- ❖ Does not advocate for or advise either side
- ❖ Disclosure of financial information
- ❖ Assists clients in developing options for settlement
- ❖ Each client chooses when to consult with own attorney
- ❖ Use attorneys to secure legal documentation
- ❖ Attorneys may or may not be present during mediation



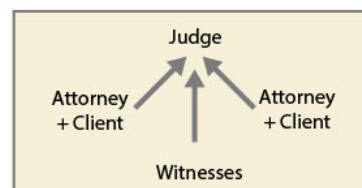
Attorney Settlement

- ❖ Spouses hire separate attorneys
- ❖ Attorneys involved may aggressively advocate
- ❖ Attorney speaks on behalf of the client
- ❖ Proposals exchanged by phone and/or by correspondence
- ❖ May involve a party who chooses not to have an attorney
- ❖ Disclosure is optional
- ❖ Litigation may accompany negotiation



Litigation

- ❖ High financial and psychological cost
- ❖ Spouse hires his/her own litigation counsel
- ❖ The court decides matters based on the law
- ❖ Interim issues decided in court
- ❖ Trial dates set for evidentiary hearings
- ❖ Formal discovery/Expert witnesses



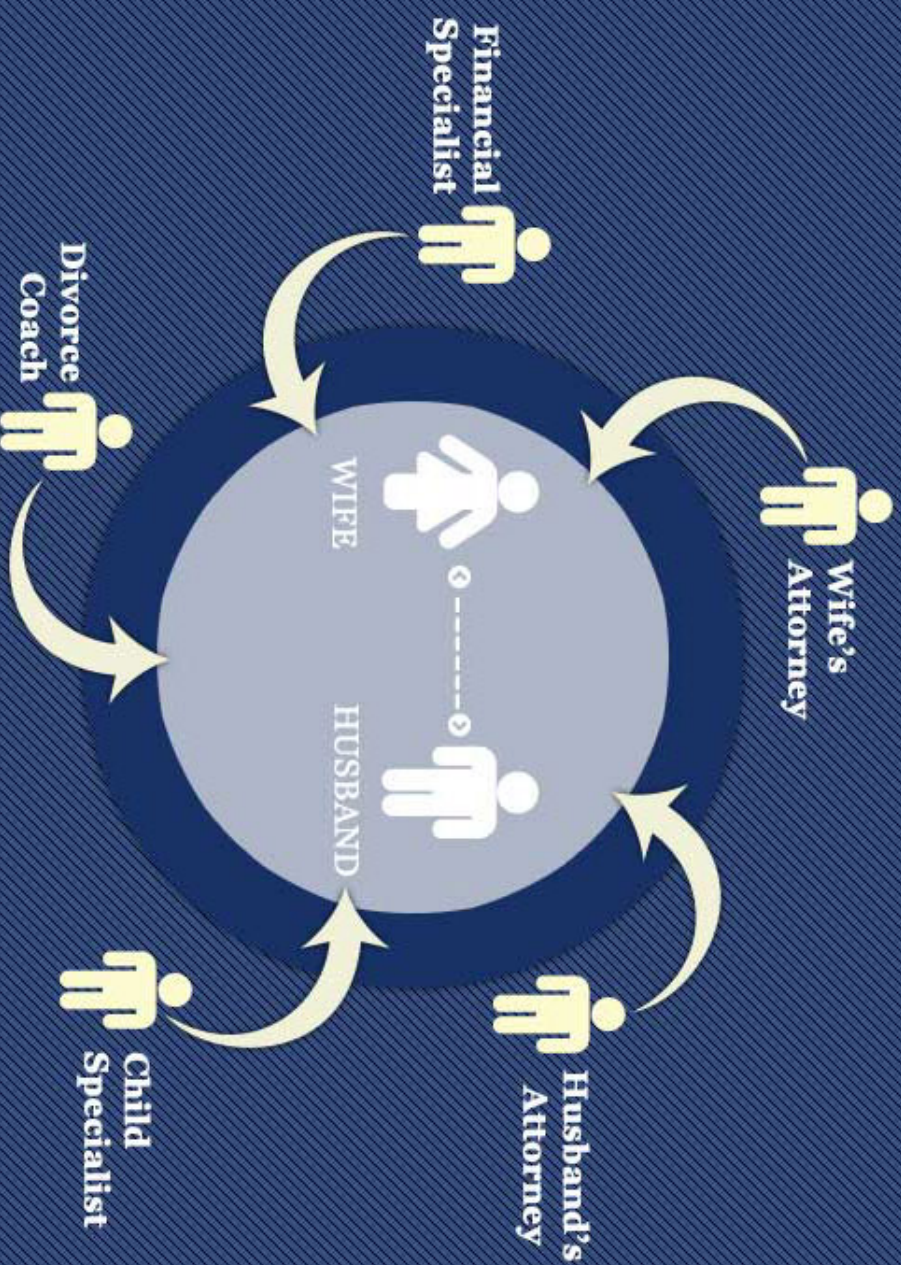
Some additional options include Neutral Case Evaluation and Arbitration

COLLABORATIVE DIVORCE

promotes dignity and respect

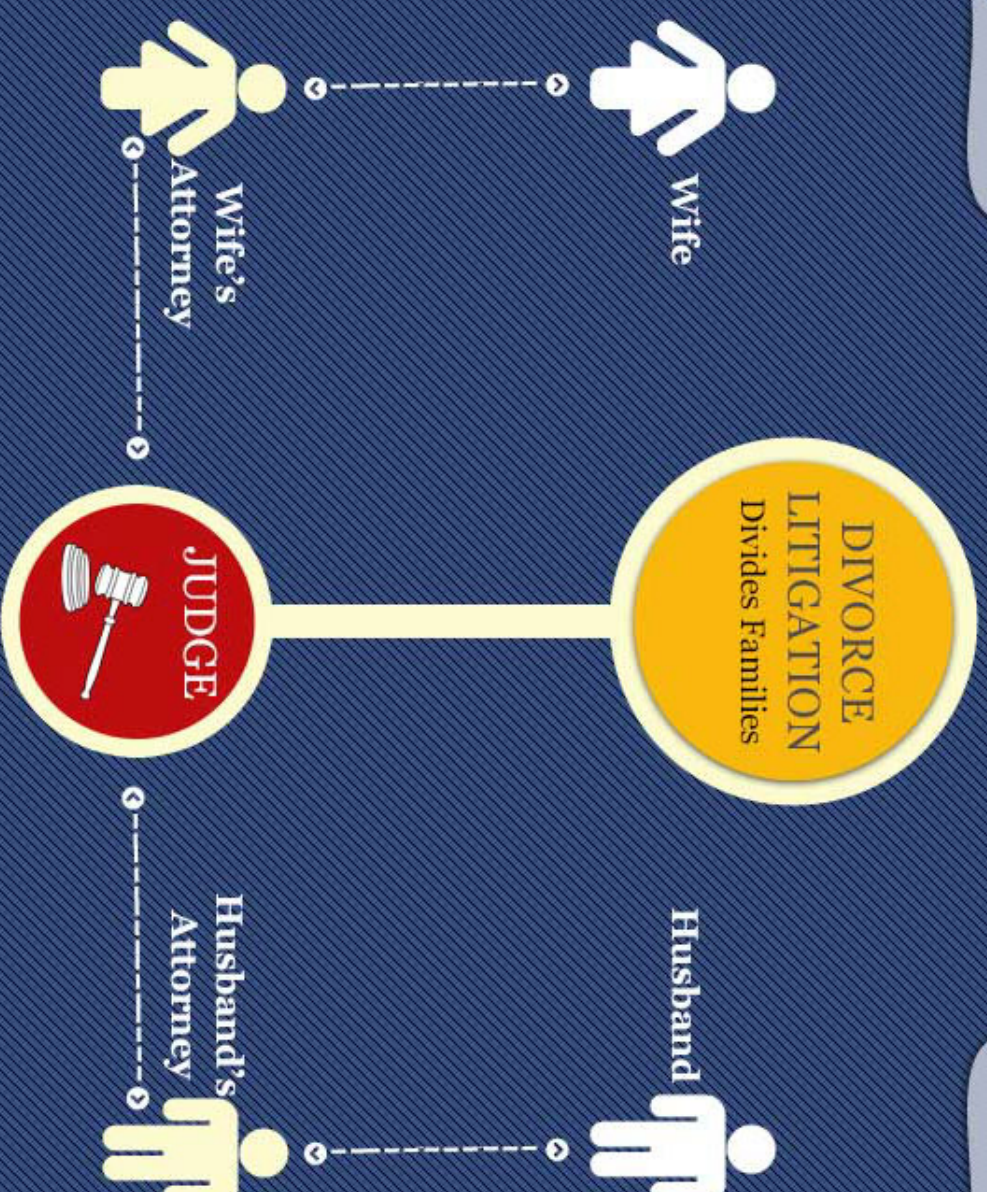
DIRECT COMMUNICATION
AMONG ALL PARTICIPANTS

PROFESSIONAL TEAM TAILORED
TO YOUR FAMILY'S NEEDS



DIVORCE LITIGATION

promotes conflict



SUMMARY OF THE COLLABORATIVE FAMILY LAW PROCESS

01

ESTABLISH THE FRAMEWORK FOR THE PROCESS

The Collaborative Team is assembled; the team and clients sign the Participation Agreement

GATHER INFORMATION

The parties meet with the Neutral Facilitator and Financial Professional

02

03

ESTABLISH GOALS AND INTERESTS

The parties develop their goals and interests for themselves and their family

BRAINSTORM OPTIONS AND ALTERNATIVES FOR SETTLEMENT

In Team Meetings, options and alternatives will be discussed and evaluated

04

05

NEGOTIATE TO AGREEMENT

When the parties have the information they need to make decisions, terms for their agreement that meet their goals and interests will be negotiated and discussed

PROCESS COMPLETION

The Attorneys will prepare the paperwork necessary for the marriage dissolution or uncontested divorce, the parties will sign the paperwork which will then be filed, and a final hearing is scheduled with a private judge

06

FINAL COURT HEARING

THE FINAL HEARING WILL BE HELD IN THE PRIVACY OF ONE OF THE ATTORNEYS' OFFICES WITH A PRIVATE JUDGE HIRED SPECIFICALLY TO CONDUCT THE FINAL HEARING

COMPARISON CHART

COLLABORATIVE FAMILY LAW PROCESS

DIVORCE

1 Control

You and your spouse control the process, time, and decisions

The judge and/or magistrate control the process, time, and they make all decisions

2 Adversity

You and your spouse control the process, time, and decisions

The judge and/or magistrate control the process, time, and they make all decisions

3 Cost

Costs are managed by the parties. The process is typically considerably less costly than litigation. Efficiencies are maximized by the use of neutral experts.

Costs are unpredictable and increase rapidly, mostly outside any control of the parties. Guardian ad Litem and experts hired by both parties can greatly increase the costs.

4 Timetable

You and your spouse, with the assistance of the team, create the timetable.

The Court dictates the timetable. If you have minor children, your case can take up to 18 months; without minor children, it can take up to a year. If you have complex issues, such as one spouse owns a business, it can take longer.

5 Outside Experts

You and your spouse jointly hire neutral experts for financial and child related matters.

Each party hires their own expert, whose job is partly to discredit the other expert.

6 Privacy

Team meetings are conducted in the offices of the attorneys or experts. The final hearing is also held in an office with a private judge who is hired for this purpose.

The Court and courtrooms are open to the public.

7 Voluntary vs Mandatory

Voluntary

Mandatory. Once a party files for divorce, if you fail to engage in the litigation, the divorce will be granted in favor of the other party.

8 Communication

You and your spouse will communicate directly, with the assistance of team professionals.

Communication is conducted through attorneys.

9 Court Involvement

The collaborative family law process is conducted outside of the court.

Divorce is litigated through the court system.