# **TEXAS UNCONTESTED DIVORCE PROCESS**

**RESPONDENT WAIVES SERVICE INITIAL PLEADINGS FILED** AGREEMENT PROVIDED Drive-by **Provide** Court & Waiver of Mediation Cause No. Agreement Original Citation (if necessary) **Assigned** to Attorney Petition for Divorce **DRAFTING APPROVAL FINAL ORDERS** "Prove-up" by Court Other Ancillary Documents: appearance Submit Agreed · Child Support **Parties Sign Draft Agreed** Client Final Decree · Real Property (houses) the Documents Final Decree **Approves Drafts**  Retirement of Divorce

Agreed Final

Decree of Divorce

"Prove-up" by affidavit



of Divorce

Vehicles

# familylawyerkaty.com (832) 315-5494

# UNCONTESTED DIVORCE IN TEXAS TERMS YOU SHOULD KNOW



# **AGREED FINAL DECREE OF DIVORCE**

This is the document that makes your divorce official. It contains all of the provisions for division of your property and custody of your children (if applicable).



#### **ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE**

This is the first document filed in your divorce case. It briefly lays out what you are seeking from the court, and notifies the court's clerk to open your case, provide a cause number, and assign a court.



#### **COURT APPEARANCE**

Depending on your county and court, the divorce must be "proved-up" (i.e. approved and finalized by the court) by: 1) an in-person court appearance, 2) a Zoom court appearance, or 3) an affidavit signed and notarized by the client and filed with the court.



#### **PARTIES' AGREEMENT**

An "uncontested divorce," requires that you and your spouse agree on all substantive aspects of your case. You should provide your attorney a written document outlining all the agreements you would like to see outlined in the Final Decree of Divorce. Hunt Law Firm provides a worksheet to our clients to help simplify this process.



## **DRIVE-BY MEDIATION**

Depending on your agreement with your spouse, a "drive-by" mediation may be required. This is typically only recommended if your agreement is unlikely to meet the court's approval. It is a quick mediation that is generally conducted via Zoom with a certified Texas family law mediator.



#### **WAIVER OF CITATION**

In Texas, your spouse must be served with the Original Petition for Divorce. An exception that can save time, money, and stress is for your spouse to waive service by a process server. A Waiver of Service must be signed and notarized by your spouse and then filed with the court. Your spouse can come to our office to have this completed guickly and efficiently.



### **ANCILLARY DOCUMENTS**

Depending on the terms of your Agreed Final Decree of Divorce, other ancillary documents may be necessary for your uncontested divorce. These documents may affect your real property (e.g. your house), vehicles, retirement accounts, or child support.



- # familylawyerkaty.com
- **(**832) 315-5494
- 23212 Red River Drive, Katy, TX 77494
   Managing Attorney Alex Hunt
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