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**The McNees Family & Collaborative Law Group**



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# FAMILY & COLLABORATIVE LAW

Divorce is a sensitive, complex issue which dramatically changes the lives of every individual involved — so when divorce becomes inevitable, you need legal representation that brings care, experience and deep knowledge to clarify and ease the divorce process.

At McNees Wallace & Nurick, we work with our clients to find creative, innovative solutions to the unique challenges of complex divorce. Our attorneys stand ready to provide you with the types of service best suited for your family's needs.

The McNees Family and Collaborative Law Center offers you options in selecting the process through which your divorce is handled as follows:

## Litigation

Litigation allows the Court to make decisions for you and your family. Litigation is positional in nature and is governed by the rules and law outlined in the Pennsylvania Divorce Code and the Pennsylvania Rules of Civil Procedure. The Court will make determinations regarding child and spousal support, property distribution and child custody. This process is largely driven by the attorneys and the Court system and removes control from the litigants.

## Mediation

A mediator is a neutral individual who does not represent either party. The mediator meets with both parties to assist them in reaching agreements using a needs and interest based model of negotiation. Mediation allows both spouses to maintain control over the process and to make decisions for their family without Court involvement. Legal counsel is not involved in the negotiations themselves, but is retained to review and agreement reached in Mediation.

## Collaborative

Collaborative Law is a dispute resolution model in which both parties to the dispute retain separate, specially trained lawyers whose only job is to help them settle the dispute. All participants agree to work together respectfully, honestly, and in good faith to try to find “win-win” solutions to the legitimate needs of both parties. Collaborative Law incorporates the strength of legal representation with the strength of mediation to provide greater potential for creative problem solving and the creation of a true team spirit in obtaining the goals of the family.

The McNees Family and Collaborative Law Center offers you these three options in selecting the process through which your divorce is handled.

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