



Forever doesn't always last.

The unfortunate fact is that sometimes a marriage is irretrievably broken, and the only option is divorce. When faced with this life-altering decision, you will need steady counsel, aggressive representation, and a supportive and experienced team to achieve the best possible outcome.

Ward and Smith's Family Law attorneys can deliver. Our attorneys have been helping North Carolinians navigate the intricacies of divorce for more than 40 years and have two North Carolina State Bar Board Certified Specialists in Family Law. We represent clients in all aspects of the dissolution of a marriage, from the initial separation to the final resolution, which can include separation and property settlement agreements, negotiations and mediation of equitable distribution litigation, child custody and support, and alimony claims.



Filing for Divorce in North Carolina

North Carolina is a no-fault state, meaning that neither party has to prove fault of the other spouse to obtain a divorce. There are two requirements that you must meet to get a no-fault divorce.

The requirements are:

- You and your spouse must live separately for at least one year.
- At least one spouse should have lived in North Carolina for at least six months before filing the divorce papers.

Do I need to hire a divorce attorney?

If you meet the requirements listed above, then getting a divorce in North Carolina can be a straightforward process. However, ending a marriage is stressful, and it is rarely that simple. This process does not begin to address complex matters, such as custody agreements, alimony, and equitable distribution of assets. Therefore, it is best to consult with an experienced family law attorney prior to filing for divorce to ensure that all of your options are on the table. Our well-versed attorneys will also represent your best interest during every stage of the divorce process to advocate for the life you want and deserve.

At Ward and Smith, we understand that every divorce is unique, and will discuss your circumstances, goals,

and future plans, to tailor the appropriate legal strategy to help you secure a solution that enables you to move forward with your life. If you are considering a divorce or your spouse has initiated the process to separate or formally address the issues related to divorce, contact our family law attorneys to discuss your case.

Reasons to Hire a Board Certified Attorney in Family Law