



# Oak Tree Mediation

FINANCIAL EXPERTS. SIMPLE DIVORCE.

## **Before You Meet With Your Mediator/Attorney: *Doing work on your own, will help save money.***

*Things you can do are:*

- Make a list of what you and your spouse can agree on.
- Make another list of things you can't.
  - If you can figure this out yourself, this will save billable hours your attorney/mediator will spend trying to figure this out for you.
- The Children: Make sure to write down yours and your spouse's goals for raising you children. Be Specific!
  - Your mediator/attorney will need to know who will have custody, details about visitation and financial expectations (how much money will be needed for the parent caring for the kids).
- Write down your budget.
  - Budgets and money can be emotional and extremely difficult to deal with. Money in a lot of relationships is used as a medium for manipulation and control so I know this is not easy to do, but please understand, budgets are CRUCIAL when it comes to divorce.
  - If you need to hire someone to do this for you; but GET IT DONE!
- WARNING! Is your spouse going to make this process hell on earth? If so, make sure you are meticulous about documenting everything! This may include some of the following:
  - Police or medical reports documenting physical, mental, or emotional abuse to you or you children.
  - Men take note, wives are abusive too, so please do not be afraid or embarrassed about documenting and adding these issues to your divorce.

***Remember, Luck favors the prepared.***