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Adam S. Gumson, Attorney at Law

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JUPITER LAW CENTER

is a private neighborhood law firm with a rich history of helping clients since 1988. The attorneys and staff are personal in approach, empathetic in nature and strive to provide a warm, relaxed atmosphere. Our goal is to build longstanding relationships with each of our clients. Ultimately, we hope to serve you and your family for a lifetime. Located on the south side of Indiantown Road in the Jupiter Creek Professional Center, east of I-95 and west of Military Trail, we're open Monday - Thursday, 9 A.M. to 5:30 P.M., and Friday, 9 A.M. - 2 P.M.

Can The Right To Receive Child Support Be Waived?



No. The right to receive Child Support is the child's right, and, therefore, cannot be waived by his/her parents.

Courts often reject parents agreements to "waive" support or accept minimal support in return for some other deal. The Courts consistently rule that you can't do that because the child is entitled to receive support from BOTH parents.

Our Office



How Does Divorce in Florida REALLY work?

Divorce laws change and Divorce is different from state to state. So, how does Divorce in Florida really work? Here are some basics for you to consider.

First there is a jurisdictional issue: you have to be a Florida resident for at least six (6) months prior to filing a *Petition for Dissolution of Marriage*. It's amazing how many people plan their next chapter, sell their house or relocate from their house first, and then find out that because the moving truck

is on its way out of state, that means they are no longer a Florida resident at the time of the Divorce. So, here's a tip: Do NOT relocate out-of-state before filing the *Petition for Dissolution!*

People are also surprised to hear that that in Florida, Divorce is **NO-FAULT**, meaning that you don't air your dirty laundry in public. Unlike the laws in some other states, you don't have to prove that your spouse behaved badly to qualify for filing for Divorce. That means that adultery, physical abuse, substance abuse and/or any other deficiency is generally irrelevant, UNLESS the misconduct is responsible for a dissipation (i.e., waste) of the parties' marital assets or the conduct is detrimental to the health or safety of the parties' children when there is a dispute about with whom they should reside. In fact, there are only two grounds for obtaining a Divorce in Florida: 1) the marriage is irretrievably broken; or 2) one spouse has been adjudicated incompetent for a period of at least three (3) years preceding the filing of a *Petition for Dissolution!*

Another surprise for people unfamiliar with Florida law is that *Common-Law Marriage* is not recognized unless such an arrangement has been continuous since 1968 (which, as the years continue to tick by has become increasingly less likely). That means that, for those couples who have lived together as if they were married but never obtained a formal marriage license, they will not have the same rights and obligations as a married couple if their relationship subsequently ends. Thus, if you are living with your "significant other" with the expectation that you will have some entitlement to share in his/her assets and/or receive Alimony if and when your relationship ends, you may want think about whether Florida is the right place for you to continue living. This goes for same-sex couples, too.

Attorney Adam S. Gumson of JUPITER LAW CENTER graduated from Duke University (1988) and the University of Florida College of Law (1991 with Honors). In addition to preparing and reviewing Contracts, he primarily handles matters involving *Estate and Business Planning (including Wills, Trusts, Durable Powers of Attorney, Health Care Surrogates, Living Wills, Succession Planning, Contracts & Purchase/Sale Agreements), Probate Estates, Family Law (Divorce, Custody, Alimony, Timesharing, Same-Sex relationships, Pre/Postnuptial Agreements, Modification actions and Collaborative Law) and Real Estate (Community Association, Residential/ Commercial Transactions, Deeds, Closings)*. He is married and resides in Jupiter with his wife and three children.

