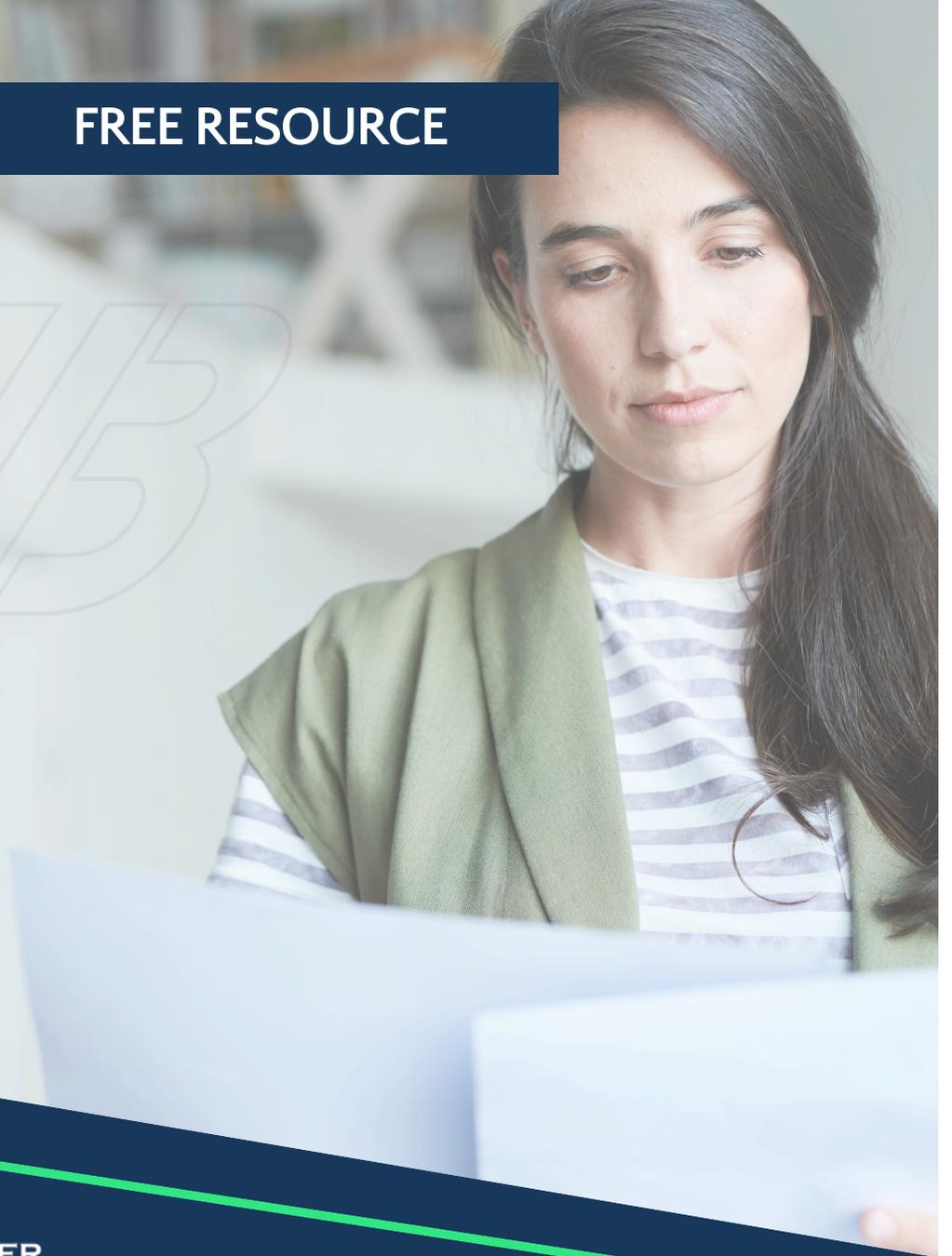


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# Family Law Documentation Checklist

*What to Gather Before Your Case Begins*



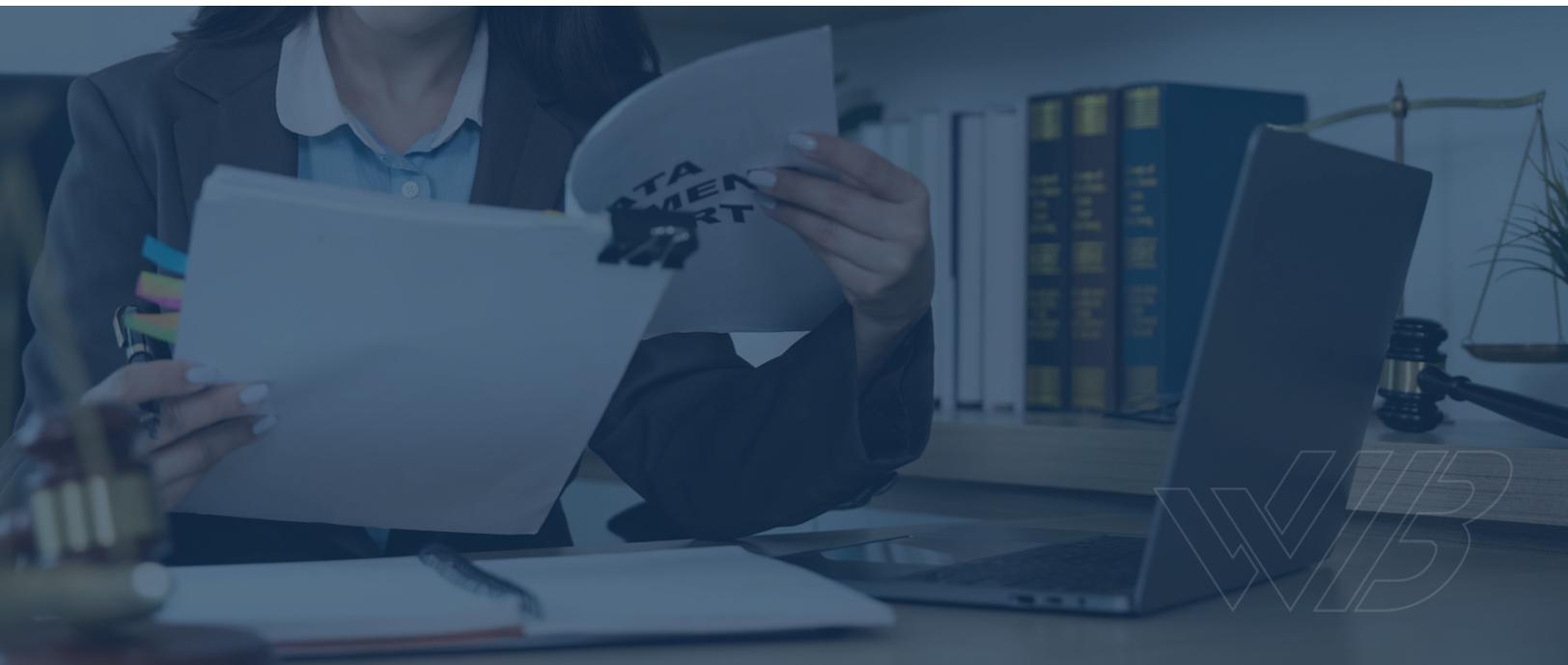
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# Family Law Documentation Checklist: What to Gather Before Your Case Begins

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When facing a family law issue, preparation matters. The more organized your documents are, the faster your attorney can build your case and protect what's most important to you. This checklist covers the key information and paperwork you may need, no matter what kind of family law matter you're dealing with.



# General Documents (Applies to All Family Law Matters)

- ✔ **Personal Identification** – Driver’s license, passport, and Social Security cards for you, your spouse, and your children.
- ✔ **Contact Information** – Current addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses for all parties involved.
- ✔ **Marriage Certificate** – Proof of marriage for any case involving a spouse.  
✔ **Prior Court Orders** – Any previous judgments, restraining orders, custody arrangements, or divorce decrees.
- ✔ **Financial Records** – Recent tax returns (last 3 years), pay stubs, W-2s, 1099s, and any other proof of income.
- ✔ **Bank Account Statements** – Checking, savings, and joint account statements for at least 12 months.
- ✔ **Credit Card Statements** – Individual and joint accounts, including balances and recent activity.
- ✔ **Loan Documents** – Mortgages, auto loans, student loans, and any other debt obligations.
- ✔ **Insurance Policies** – Health, life, auto, homeowner’s, and any policies covering dependents.
- ✔ **Retirement Accounts** – Statements from 401(k), IRA, or pension plans.
- ✔ **Property Deeds or Lease Agreements** – For all real estate you own or rent.
- ✔ **Communication Records** – Texts, emails, or social media messages relevant to your case (such as parenting discussions or threats).

# Divorce

- ✓ **Prenuptial or Postnuptial Agreements** – Originals or signed copies.
- ✓ **Proof of Income and Expenses** – Pay stubs, income statements, and household budgets.
- ✓ **Asset List** – A detailed list of marital and non-marital property.
- ✓ **Debt List** – Credit cards, loans, or other financial obligations.
- ✓ **Tax Returns and W-2s** – At least three years for both spouses.
- ✓ **Business or Partnership Interests** – Ownership documents, valuations, and tax filings.
- ✓ **Proof of Separate Property** – Inheritances or gifts received individually.
- ✓ **Health Insurance Information** – Policy details, premiums, and dependents covered.



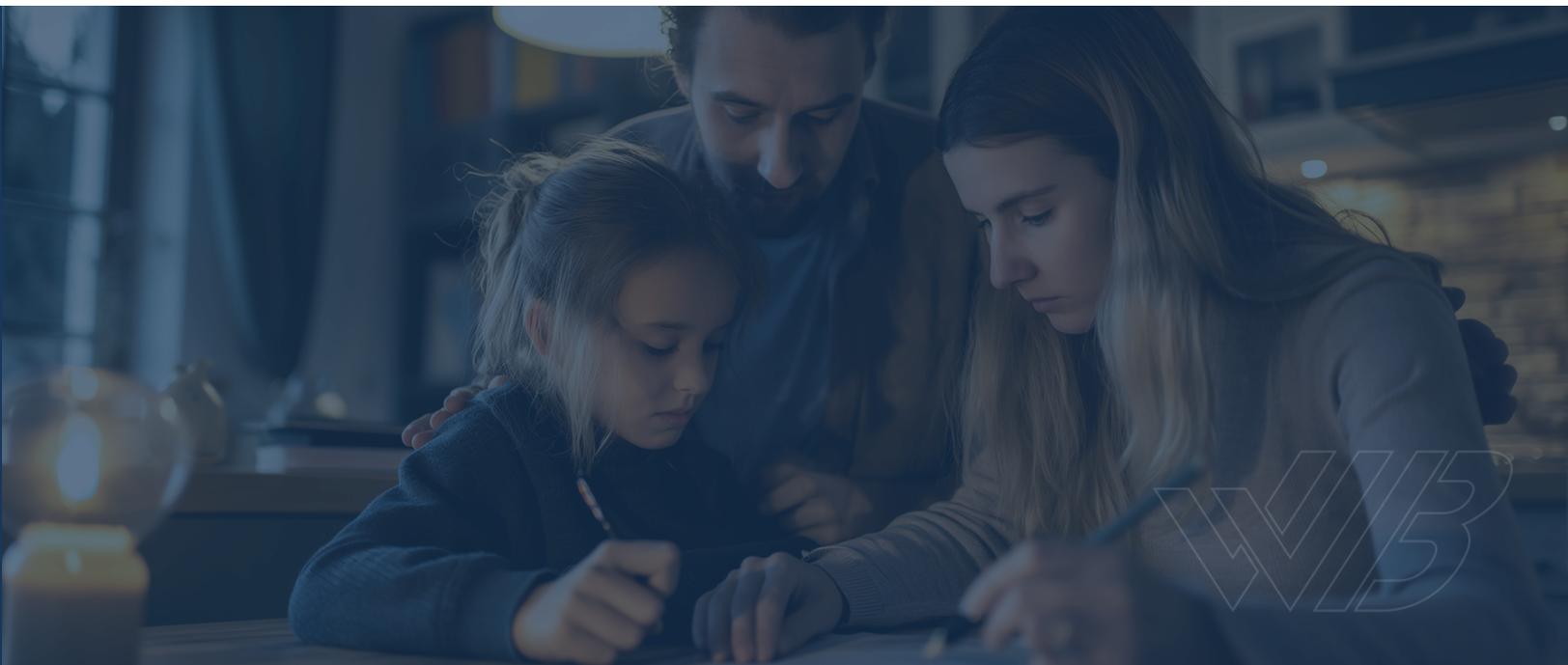
# Child Custody and Parenting

- ✓ **Birth Certificates for All Children** – Certified copies.
- ✓ **School Records** – Report cards, attendance, disciplinary notes, and special education plans (if applicable).
- ✓ **Medical Records** – Doctor’s notes, immunizations, and therapy records.
- ✓ **Parenting Time Logs** – Calendar or journal showing visitation schedules and attendance.
- ✓ **Communication Logs** – Texts, emails, or notes about parenting coordination or conflicts.
- ✓ **Photos or Documentation of Living Arrangements** – To show the child’s current environment.
- ✓ **Childcare Information** – Daycare receipts or schedules.
- ✓ **Witness Contact Information** – Teachers, coaches, or relatives familiar with the parent-child relationship.



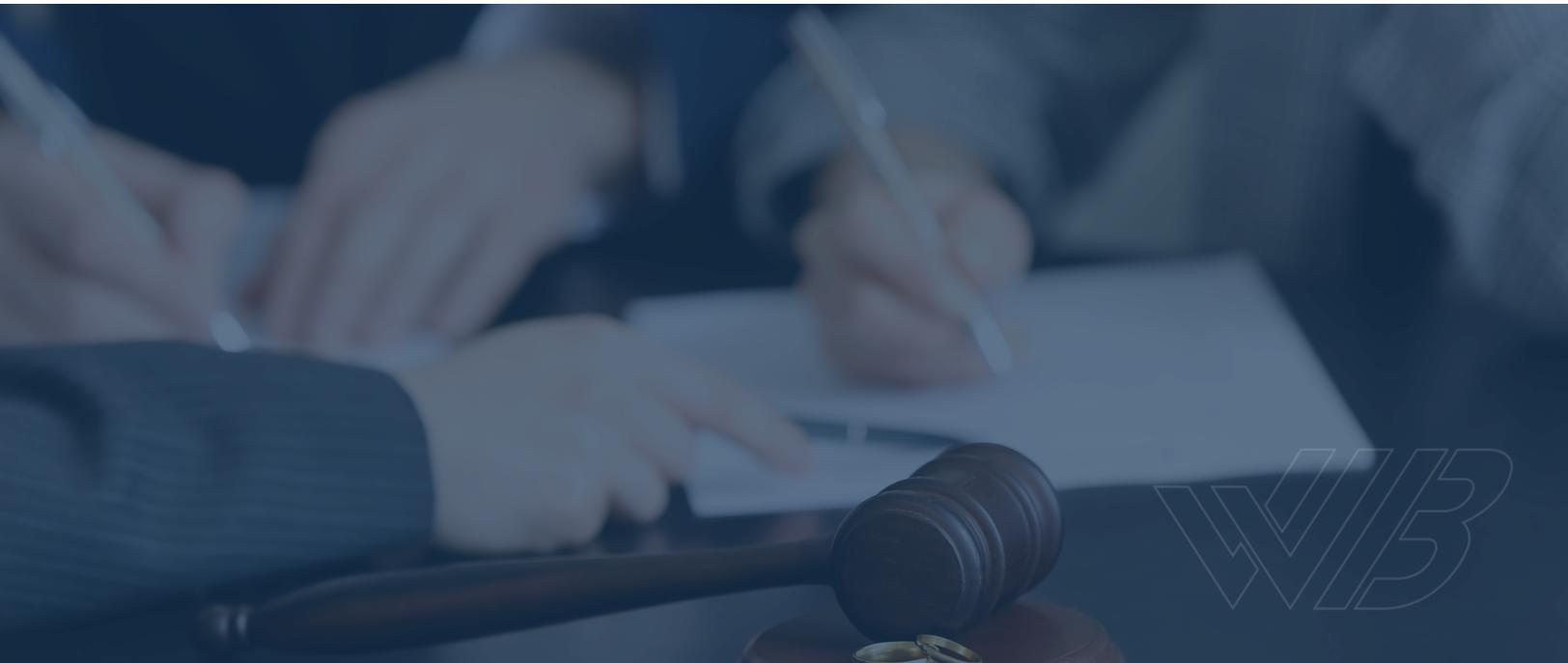
# Child Support

- ✓ **Income Documentation** – Pay stubs, self-employment income, or benefits statements.
- ✓ **Childcare Expenses** – Receipts, invoices, or contracts.
- ✓ **Health Insurance Costs** – Premiums and proof of coverage.
- ✓ **Educational Expenses** – Tuition, books, extracurricular fees.
- ✓ **Proof of Payment or Nonpayment** – Bank records or written communication about support payments.



# Alimony and Spousal Support

- ✓ **Income and Expense Records** – Current and past income sources and monthly expense breakdowns.
- ✓ **Employment History** – Résumés, contracts, or business ownership details.
- ✓ **Proof of Standard of Living** – Bills, statements, and evidence of lifestyle during the marriage.
- ✓ **Health and Disability Records** – If health impacts your ability to work



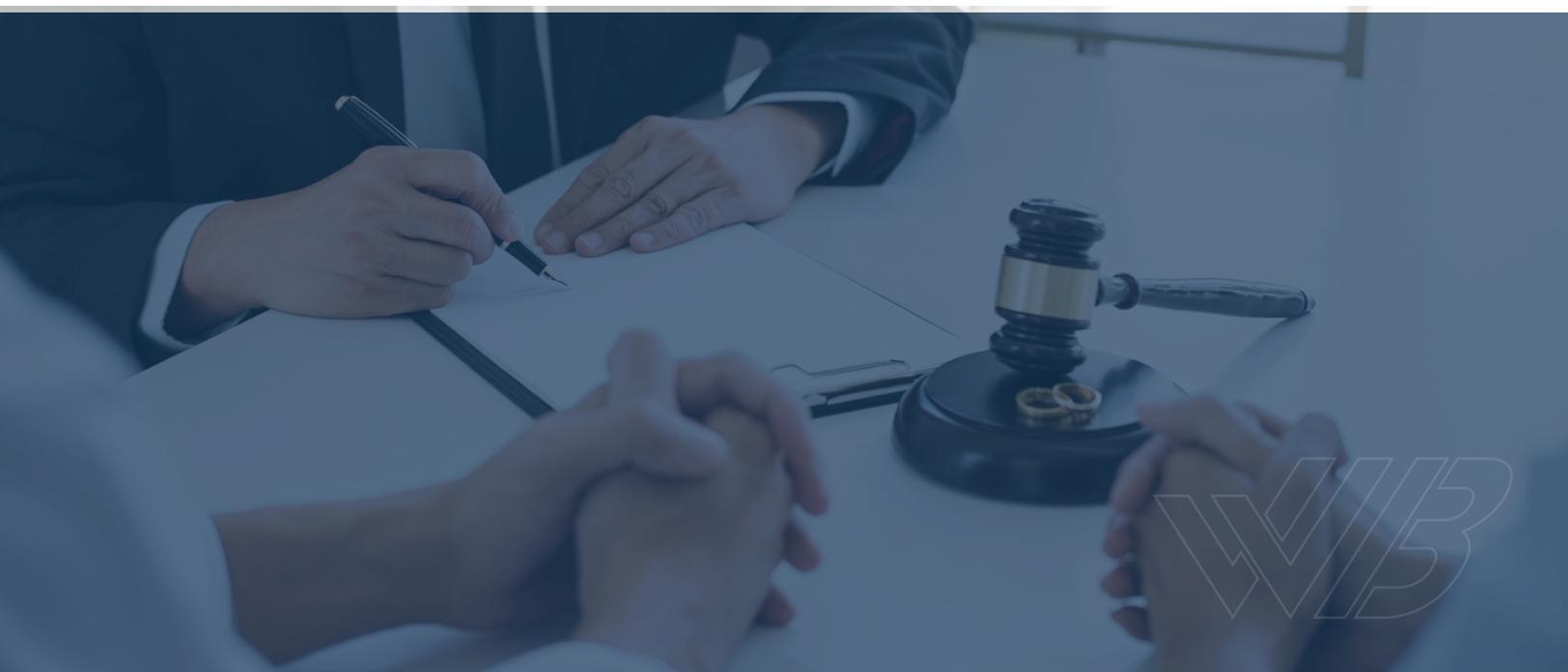
# Property Division

- ✔ **Real Estate Documents** – Deeds, appraisals, and mortgage statements.
- ✔ **Vehicle Titles and Loan Statements** – For all family vehicles.
- ✔ **Business Valuations** – If either spouse owns a business or professional practice.
- ✔ **Investment and Brokerage Accounts** – Current and past statements.
- ✔ **Personal Property Inventory** – Furniture, jewelry, collectibles, and other valuables.
- ✔ **Retirement and Pension Statements** – Including any QDROs or plan summaries.



# Post-Divorce Modifications

- ✓ **Current Court Orders** – The existing judgment or agreement you want modified.
- ✓ **Proof of Changed Circumstances** – Income loss, relocation, medical issues, or child needs.
- ✓ **Updated Financial Statements** – Tax returns and pay stubs showing your current situation.
- ✓ **Communication with the Other Party** – Emails or texts about the change in circumstances.



# Domestic Violence and Restraining Orders

- ✓ **Incident Reports and Police Records** – Copies of reports or case numbers.
- ✓ **Medical Records** – Documentation of injuries or treatment.
- ✓ **Photos or Videos** – Evidence of harm, damage, or abuse.
- ✓ **Witness Statements or Contact Info** – Anyone who saw or heard the incident.
- ✓ **Written or Digital Communication** – Threats, harassment, or intimidating messages.
- ✓ **Prior Protective Orders** – Past court orders involving you or the other party.



# Take the Next Step with Willinger, Willinger & Bucci

Family law matters touch every part of your life. The more documentation you gather early on, the stronger your position will be.

If you're ready to take the next step, bring these documents to your consultation. The family law attorneys at Willinger, Willinger & Bucci will review your materials, answer your questions, and help you move forward with confidence.

[Schedule a Consultation](#)

Click to schedule

## Contact Us



203-366-3939



[info@wwblaw.com](mailto:info@wwblaw.com)