

Givens Law Group News

Welcome to our September 2011 Newsletter

GIVENS ONCE AGAIN NAMED TO BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA

Attorney Stann W. Givens was recently selected again by his peers for inclusion in the 2012 edition of Best Lawyers in America in the specialty of Family Law.

A graduate of local public schools, Bucknell University and the Florida State University College of Law, Givens has practiced in Tampa for thirty-seven years. He is president of the law firm of Givens Law Group, PLLC, is a Board Certified Marital and Family Lawyer by the Florida Bar Board of Certification and is past president of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Florida Chapter.

He is a frequent author and lecturer in the field of marital law.

He is one of a distinguished group of attorneys who have now been listed in Best Lawyers since 1998.

What is a Collaborative Divorce in Florida?

You are heading for a divorce, but would like to work things out with your spouse so that you don't have to go through the War of the Roses (a movie that was funny and scary at the same time). You hope that, despite your differences, you will be able to get through the process in a way that will enable you to get along in the future and potentially sit in the same row at your children's weddings. The problem is that you have some complicated parenting or property issues that could result in some real legal battles.

Something called "collaborative divorce" has saved many a divorcing couple years of future anguish and thousands of dollars in legal fees.

The "collaborative" part is that, even though you are headed for a breakup and a legal process, you both agree that you will negotiate the case and reach a mutual decision rather than battle it out in front of a judge. But how do you trust each other to do that? One simple factor makes all the difference. You both hire lawyers who have received special training in the collaborative law process. The lawyers agree up front that they will do all in their power to help you reach such

Givens Law Group



[Read more about Stann Givens](#)

an agreement and they if they can't, they will resign from your representation. In this way, each of you knows that the other lawyer is going to do all that can be done to keep it moving toward settlement. Otherwise, the lawyer is off the case. Additionally, you know that your spouse is serious about settling because otherwise your spouse is wasting money on a lawyer who is not making any progress and soon will not be on the case.

During the collaborative law process, many times joint experts are retained to help with compiling the accurate list and values of marital property and to make recommendations as to how to solve parenting issues. The use of professionals is based upon the need in your case and upon the affordability of those professionals.

Bottom line: Many people in our area of the state have been happy that they decided to hire a collaborative divorce lawyer to help them through the difficult time.

THANKS!

We are all extremely grateful for the referrals we have received from former clients, fellow lawyers, mental health professionals and others in our community. There is nothing more professionally humbling than knowing that people are counting on us in their life-changing family law problems.

If you ever decide that one more piece of e-mail is too much, feel free to "unsubscribe" to this newsletter at any time. We look forward to working with you to make things easier for those people you know who are having family issues and we look forward to helping you in any way we can to make your life easier.

