

Dear valued client

Re: FAMILY LAW SERVICE ENGAGEMENT

Thank you for considering engaging McGowan Family Law to represent you in relation to your family law matter. We welcome you as a new client and look forward to working with you to identify your family law issues and to create strategies together for the successful resolution of your family law matter.

ENGAGING OUR SERVICES

To engage our services we ask that you download and read the following documents which are available on our website:

- Cost Agreement and Disclosure Statement;
- Prescribed brochure: Marriage, Families and Separation; and
- Prescribed brochure: Legal Costs in Family Law Matters.

Please return the Cost Agreement to us after you have signed it.

The Cost Agreement contains the entire terms and conditions of our retainer and the terms upon which we agree to represent you. It also contains various estimates of costs for all potential family law work that may be applicable to you.

It also contains our request of you to pay a retainer of \$5,000 into our solicitors practice trust account and after you return the signed Cost Agreement and pay this retainer we will be engaged to commence family law services for you and we will be in touch with you. However, the Rules provide that even if you do not sign the Cost Agreement, you can engage our services by taking any of the action that is contained in the first page of the Cost Agreement and by providing instructions for us to act after the date that we have directed you to our Cost Agreement, you are deemed to have read, understood and accepted all of the terms engagement contained in our Cost Agreement regardless of whether the Agreement is returned and we will perform work on the basis of being engaged to represent you and on our understanding that you accept the terms of our engagement.

MINDFUL, RESOLUTION & EMPOWERMENT FOCUSED LEGAL SERVICES, MEDIATIONS & LIFE COACHING

Suite 1, 16 Holmes Road, Moonee Ponds, Victoria, Australia 3039

Please send all correspondence to:
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Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation



Law Institute of Victoria
**Accredited Family
Law Specialists**



aiflam
Member 2021/2022
Accredited Mediator

McGowan Family Law Pty Ltd ABN 18 164 149 160

You are entitled to receive independent legal advice prior to signing the Agreement if you should so elect.

DOCUMENTS THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT AND FAMILY COURT OF AUSTRALIA REQUIRE YOU TO READ AT THE START OF YOUR FAMILY LAW MATTER

After engagement, we are required to refer you to the following documents which you are required by the Court to read:

- Family Law Central Practice Direction;
- Prescribed brochure: Before you file: pre action procedures in parenting matters; and
- Prescribed brochure: Before you file: pre action procedures in financial matters.

CONSIDERING COURT PROCEEDINGS?

If your matter is before the Court or you are considering instructing us to commence an Application in the Court, please kindly complete the following documents and provide these to us:

- Questionnaire: Parenting; and
- Questionnaire: Financial.

WHAT'S NEXT?

Once we have received your signed Cost Agreement and retainer we will be in touch with you to confirm our understanding of the work that you have engaged us to perform and provide you with a specific estimate of costs, should that differ from the cost estimates contained in our Cost Agreement. The Cost Agreement includes estimates of costs for work that *may* be required to be performed and we will confirm with you by email should the estimate change.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you wish to schedule a further conference with us or discuss your matter. We can be contacted at reception@mcgowanfamilylaw.com.au or 9370-0599.

Please note that we also provide Mediation services, Independent Children's Lawyer services and Life Coaching and Mentoring. If you consider that these services could be of benefit to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

You can find out more about these services at these websites:

www.theseperationcoach.com.au

www.familylawmediationservice.com.au

We look forward to working with you to successfully resolve your family law matter and thank you for engaging McGowan Family Law.

Yours faithfully

Rebecca McGowan | McGowan Family Law
Principal Lawyer & Director



Accredited Family Law Specialist | Accredited Mediator | Independent Children's Lawyer
Certified Life Coach @ The Separation Coach
E: rebecca@mcgowanfamilylaw.com.au



aiflam
Member 2021/2022
Accredited Mediator



Nationally Accredited Mediator
2021 to 2025



Please download and read the following documents:

1. Cost Agreement
2. Court brochures
 - 2.1 Central Practice Direction;
 - 2.2 Marriage Families & Separation;
 - 2.3 Before you file – pre action procedures for parenting cases;
 - 2.4 Before you file – pre action procedures in financial cases;
 - 2.5 Costs Notice;
 - 2.6 Parenting Fact Sheet; and
 - 2.7 Property Fact Sheet