

**QUESTIONNAIRE: Are You Entitled to Alimony (Spousal Support)?**

Not every former spouse receives alimony, which is also called spousal support or maintenance. Alimony will be awarded only when a former spouse is unable to meet his or her needs without financial assistance from a spouse who can afford to pay it. Spousal support may be temporary, such as when a former spouse needs time to get back into the job market, brush up on skills, complete an educational program, or raise the children; or permanent, such as when a spouse may never become self-supporting due to age or disability. Your answers to the following questions can help you and your lawyer determine whether you are a candidate for alimony, or, conversely, whether your soon-to-be-ex spouse is, such that you will be liable for spousal support payments.

*Answer the following questions for yourself, if you think you may be entitled to alimony, or as you think your spouse would answer them, if you wonder whether you may be required to pay alimony.*

How long have you and your current spouse been married? \_\_\_\_\_ years

Are you currently employed? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Full time \_\_\_\_\_ Part time \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_ hours per \_\_\_\_\_)

If yes, for how long? \_\_\_\_\_ years

How much do you earn? \$\_\_\_\_\_ per \_\_\_\_\_

For how many years of your marriage have you been employed? \_\_\_\_\_ years full time / \_\_\_\_\_ years part time

If you are not currently employed or are employed part time, explain why. \_\_\_\_\_

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What post-high school education do you have? \_\_\_\_\_

What jobs did you hold before this marriage? \_\_\_\_\_

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Were you employed when you got married? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, what was your position? \_\_\_\_\_ Salary \$\_\_\_\_\_ per \_\_\_\_\_

If no, explain. \_\_\_\_\_

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Have you obtained additional education or developed new skills during your marriage?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, explain. \_\_\_\_\_

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Are you in good health? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Explain any health-related limitations on your being self-supporting. \_\_\_\_\_

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Explain any non-health related limitations on your being self-supporting (e.g., child care responsibilities, currently in school, extended absence from job market, lack of marketable skills, transportation concerns, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

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Did you support your spouse during your marriage while he or she obtained an advanced degree or professional training? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, explain. \_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Did you put your career on hold during your marriage in order to support your spouse's career, professional development, or business development? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, explain. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Do you plan on working after the divorce? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Full time \_\_\_\_\_ Part time \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_ hours per \_\_\_\_\_)

Do you know what your post-divorce income will be?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_, \$\_\_\_\_\_ per \_\_\_\_\_ / No \_\_\_\_\_

What are your post-divorce monthly expenses estimated to be? \$\_\_\_\_\_/month

Can you continue to maintain the lifestyle you enjoyed during the marriage without spousal support? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Did you enter into a prenuptial agreement before marrying your spouse that addressed spousal support in the event of divorce? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, summarize the agreement with respect to spousal support here and provide a copy of the agreement to your attorney. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In your opinion, can your spouse afford to provide you with financial support while maintaining a standard of living for himself or herself similar to that enjoyed during the marriage?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Provide any other information that you believe is important to a determination of whether you should receive spousal support. \_\_\_\_\_  
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Questions for my attorney: \_\_\_\_\_

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