

Cleveland Divorce Attorney Reports 40% Increase in Couples Choosing Mediation Over Traditional Litigation

Local Family Law Expert Attributes Rise to Cost Savings, Privacy, and Desire for Amicable Solutions

CLEVELAND, OH, UNITED STATES, July 22, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Anna M. Petronzio, a leading [divorce attorney at Divorce Law Cleveland](#), reports a

significant 40% increase in couples choosing mediation and [collaborative divorce](#) over traditional courtroom litigation in the past year. This shift reflects a growing trend among Cleveland-area couples seeking more cost-effective, private, and amicable alternatives to resolve their marital disputes.

The logo for Petronzio Schneider Co., LPA, featuring a large "PS" monogram followed by the firm's name in a serif font.

PS Law

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Couples are increasingly viewing divorce as a life transition rather than a battle to be won”

Anna Petronzio

"We're seeing a fundamental change in how couples approach divorce," said Petronzio, who has been practicing family law in Cleveland for over 32 years. "More couples are recognizing that mediation and collaborative divorce offer them greater control over their outcomes while preserving relationships that matter, especially when children are involved."

Key Benefits Driving the Trend

The surge in alternative divorce methods can be attributed to several factors:

- **Cost Effectiveness:** Traditional litigation can cost couples \$15,000-\$30,000 or more, while mediation typically ranges from \$3,000-\$8,000 total. Collaborative divorce falls somewhere in between, offering significant savings compared to contested court proceedings.
- **Privacy and Confidentiality:** Unlike court proceedings, which become part of public record, mediation and collaborative divorce discussions remain confidential, allowing couples to maintain their privacy during a difficult time.

- **Faster Resolution:** While litigated divorces can take 12-18 months or longer, mediated divorces often conclude within 3-6 months, reducing emotional stress and uncertainty for all family members.

- **Better Outcomes for Children:** "When parents work together through mediation or collaborative divorce, children benefit from seeing their parents communicate respectfully," Petronzio explained. "This cooperative approach often leads to more effective co-parenting arrangements."

Understanding the Options

[Divorce Mediation](#) involves a neutral third-party mediator who helps couples communicate and negotiate all aspects of their divorce, from property division to child custody arrangements. The mediator doesn't make decisions but facilitates productive conversations.

Collaborative Divorce involves each spouse working with their own specially-trained collaborative attorney, along with other professionals such as financial advisors and mental health counselors when needed. All parties commit to resolving issues without going to court.

"Both approaches put the decision-making power back in the hands of the couple, rather than leaving it to a judge who doesn't know their family dynamics," said Petronzio.

Not Right for Every Situation

Petronzio emphasizes that mediation and collaborative divorce aren't appropriate in cases



Anna



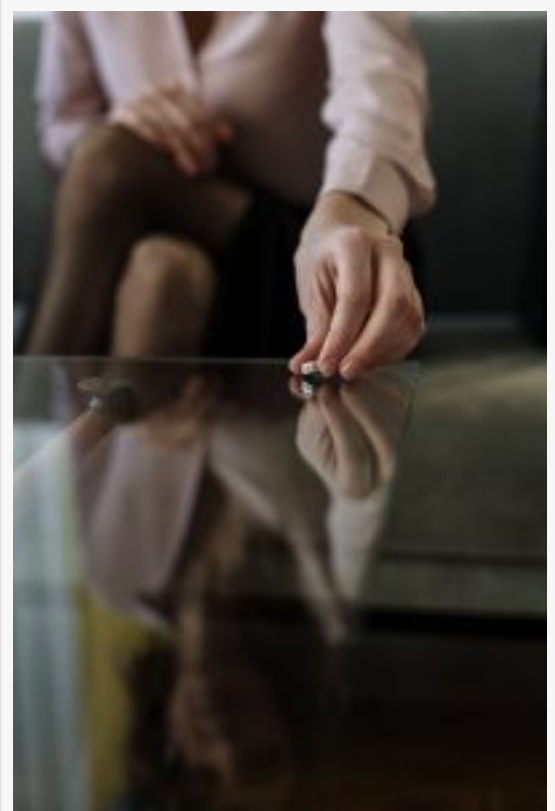
Divorce Mediation

involving domestic violence, substance abuse, or when one party is hiding assets or refusing to participate in good faith. "These alternative methods work best when both parties are committed to honest, respectful communication and finding mutually beneficial solutions."

Local Impact

The trend toward alternative dispute resolution reflects broader changes in how Cleveland families approach conflict resolution. "Couples are increasingly viewing divorce as a life transition rather than a battle to be won," Petronzio noted. "This mindset shift benefits not just the immediate family, but our entire community."

Petronzio's practice has expanded its mediation and collaborative divorce services to meet growing demand, including offering evening and weekend appointments to accommodate working parents' schedules.



Collaborative Divorce

About Anna M. Petronzio and Divorce Law Cleveland

Anna M. Petronzio is a family law attorney with extensive experience in divorce mediation, collaborative divorce, and traditional litigation. She is certified in Mediation, and Collaborative Divorce, and has helped hundreds of Cleveland-area families navigate divorce proceedings with dignity and respect. Divorce Law Cleveland is committed to providing comprehensive legal services that prioritize clients' emotional and financial well-being.

For more information about divorce mediation and collaborative divorce options, visit <https://divorcelawcleveland.com> or call (216) 381-3400 x107 to schedule a consultation.

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