

Hi Kathy:

An overwhelming number of highly ethical and respected attorneys are appalled at Family-Law-Ambulance-Chasing which has gone on unchecked, and unregulated for years.

Long and the short of the issue is: A very small number of bottom feeding lawyers, haunt the county clerks office, obtain daily access to new divorce filings, and generate unasked for solicitations, before the other party even knows a divorce case has been filed; they routinely spark fear and anxiety in the recipients, and tout their family law background, and inferring if not outright claiming that bad, bad things will happen if they don't immediately hire a lawyer.

The noise generated by these half a dozen or so "trollers" is far disproportionate to their standing or status in the legal community. The claims of "constitutional violations" are Fake News, and Fake claims. There are tons of areas in our legal system where there are restrictions on public access to files, or restrictions upon attorney solicitations. Example: (a) all adoption files (b) all juvenile files (c) certain Domestic Violence filings (d) personal injury solicitations (e) airline disaster solicitations, and the list goes on an on...

Kathy is on the committee looking at the statute, and I wanted to let her know that as a family law attorney of 46 years, as a solid Republican, and as a competent professional 95% or more of us solidly support this bill. Within the family law attorney there is broad, bipartisan, support for this bill, and the only internal discussions regard what is the best way to fix this question.

There are a number of our cases where we can petition the Court for immediate issuance of a temporary restraining order, preventing the kidnaping of children, or emptying of bank accounts, or changing beneficiary designations, or running up debt... these restraining orders are not effective until served upon the other party... which means that these solicitations can tip off the defendant before they are served with the restraining orders.

Because these "temporary" orders are, by and large, even handed and apply to both parties, and just preserve the "status quo" it is my professional experience that 95% of the initial orders remain in place throughout the case. Solicitation prior to the defendants even being served is the evil to be avoided.

I am out of the Country on Monday for 14 days, but I did want to personally reach out to Kathy on this critical issues.

These bottom feeders successfully evaded a Court Rule change a number of years ago, and they are just as frenzied at the attempt to use the Legislative route. (Which is the best "fix" for the issue, anyway..)

Thanks

JIM

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