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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

Proceeding	92061382
Party	Plaintiff Anliker Financial Management LLC
Correspondence Address	DYAN FINGUERRA-DUCHARME PRYOR CUSHMAN LLP 7 TIMES SQUARE NEW YORK, NY 10036 UNITED STATES dfinguerra@pryorcashman.com, tmdocketing@pryorcashman.com
Submission	Other Motions/Papers
Filer's Name	Dyan Finguerra-DuCharme
Filer's e-mail	dfinguerra@pryorcashman.com, tmdocketing@pryorcashman.com
Signature	/dyan finguerra-ducharme/
Date	05/01/2015
Attachments	Exhibit A.pdf(5097990 bytes)

Exhibit A

Your Financial Quarterback

By Larissa A. Mintschenko, CFP®, Relationship Manager

The case studies presented are real descriptions of actual client relationships. We have protected the identity of the clients by changing names and locations. Given that many of our clients experience similar life events, the case studies are designed to depict the value proposition Massey Quick brings to the table. Each family we work with is unique. There is no "cookie cutter" set of solutions. We bring our full set of resources to the table to solve, educate, implement, and monitor.

Background

Mr. and Mrs. Clark lead very active lives due to Mr. Clark's career and the care of their children. Mr. Clark's career developed rapidly as he made a significant impact at several prominent firms. After much success, Mr. Clark decided to retire early to spend more time with his family. During this time, they maintained the same relationship with a generalist broker to manage their assets whom they began working with earlier in Mr. Clark's career path.

Based on their steady growth of capital, their financial planning needs have changed over the years. They outgrew the existing brokerage relationship quickly due to their professional success and were in need of experts in higher levels of investing and planning. During this time period, Massey Quick coincidentally sent out a mailing to which the Clarks responded. We met with them to discuss how we can enhance their wealth management experience. Mr. Clark was in the process of considering a second career as a consultant. As he decided to move forward with this career change, the Clarks knew it was also time to make the necessary switch of advisors. They decided Massey Quick was the right solution for their needs.

Key Issues to Solve

- The Clarks had a generalist brokerage relationship that they quickly outgrew. Their broker did all planning, research, and trading himself, but provided minimal communication. There was no team of experts in place to fit their needs.
- As their wealth grew, the Clarks were in need of more complicated financial planning, especially with how to structure his consulting business and provide insurance and retirement funding.
- Health insurance coverage was their #1 priority based on their children's health complications.
- While basic Wills were in place, they had not been reviewed in 10-15 years. A robust estate planning evaluation was needed in order to prepare for future generations. Updated Wills and planning techniques were especially critical due to Mr. Clark's active travel schedule.

- Due to their very conservative risk tolerance, their investment opportunities were limited. There was a need for further education on options and exposure to various asset classes.

Our Approach

Massey Quick was retained as the wealth manager for the Clark family to assist them with the necessary investment and financial planning changes. Our role included advice on asset allocation, manager research and selection, ongoing due diligence, performance reporting, and assistance with quarterbacking their financial plan specifically in regards to tax, retirement, insurance, and estate planning.

When the Clarks came to Massey Quick, they were extremely risk averse. We had several discussions with them about their existing portfolio, which was heavily weighted in fixed income, and their desire for slightly more return. Massey Quick emphasized the importance of asset allocation and exposure to multiple asset classes. While the Clarks realized they could probably afford to take more risk based on the time horizon of their portfolio, they were not comfortable with volatility and wanted to protect their capital and be able to "sleep at night."

There were also a variety of financial planning items that needed to be addressed. Massey Quick worked with the Clarks and recommended a trust and estates attorney to review their existing estate plan and determine if changes or updates were necessary. We also worked with the attorney to establish a structure for Mr. Clark's consulting business. Since Mr. Clark recently left his company, the family health insurance plan was no longer available. They were also in need of a new accountant. We introduced the Clarks to a few health insurance professionals and accountants, of which they could choose who they wanted to work with.

Below is a summary of the recommendations and changes Massey Quick helped to implement for the Clark family since the inception of our relationship:

- Massey Quick worked with one of our municipal bond managers to review the existing fixed income portfolio. It was determined that while their fixed income portfolio appeared to have low risk based on the nature of tax-free bonds, they had significant credit risk exposure due to the poor credit quality of a significant number of their bonds. The municipal bond portfolio has since been transitioned into bonds with higher credit ratings and is actively managed by a Massey Quick approved manager.

- Due to the Clark's risk aversion, but desire for improved returns, Massey Quick suggested the addition of alternative investments and reduction of fixed income exposure. This increased the overall diversification of the portfolio while maintaining low standard deviation or volatility based on the low correlated nature of alternative investments. Over time, the Clarks became more comfortable with diversifying their portfolio in hopes of generating more return without adding significant risk. An Investment Policy Statement was created to outline their objectives and asset allocation guidelines, which showed target percentages and ranges for each asset class to ensure proper diversification.

- The Clarks had inactive retirement plans that we recommended be rolled into their IRA accounts. Due to the longer time horizon of the retirement assets and ability to endure more risk, they are now invested in assets with greater return potential. Massey Quick also actively monitors annual contributions to ensure they are timely and maximized for tax deferral purposes.

- With the creation of the LLC, it was also suggested that a Pension Plan and Profit Sharing Plan be created to help the Clarks build their retirement assets. We worked with the insurance professional to create these retirement plans and maximize their annual funding limits to help with retirement savings and reducing taxes.

- We organized meetings between the Clarks and two different accountants. After the family decided on their preferred accountant to work with, we passed along their previous tax returns to the new accountant and decided on future tax goals for the family.

- After meeting with the attorney, a Limited Liability Company was formed for Mr. Clark's consulting business. The Clarks are joint owners since Mrs. Clark also works part-time for the company. Through the assistance of the attorney and accountant, the Clarks have learned how to properly operate the business, including maximizing tax efficiency and deducting business expenses. The LLC was also structured to give the Clarks the option to participate in investment opportunities through the consulting business.

- The LLC had at least two members, so it was eligible to apply for more affordable and comprehensive small group health insurance as opposed to individual health insurance. Along with the insurance broker, we analyzed different options with the Clarks. A plan was chosen that included their existing doctors and offered full coverage for their family.

- The attorney also drafted updated estate planning documents such as Wills, Power of Attorneys, etc. Robust conversations were had to make certain that the Clark family's wishes were executed properly in these documents. As the children continue to age, we will work on additional estate planning techniques.

- The team continues to keep an open dialogue and meets with the Clarks on a regular basis. While this plan has been put in place, there will continue to be updates as regulations and the family's needs may change in the future. Some examples include current discussions about trusts for the Clark children, changes in health insurance laws, and recently refinancing their mortgage from 5.375% to 3%.

Massey Quick serves as the wealth manager and quarterback for the team of professionals that support the Clark family. The Clarks are happy with the changes that have been implemented in their portfolio and financial plan. They feel financially stable and more comfortable with their future.

The above hypothetical case study is offered to illustrate the benefits that Massey Quick's customized approach can provide. Please note that actual client experience could vary, and there can be no assurance that Massey Quick will be able to deliver the same type of results referenced in the case study.

Aaron Katsman

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by Aaron Katsman on January 26, 2012

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Who is your financial quarterback? (Trusts and Estates Magazine)

by Bill Hammer, Jr. on June 25, 2012

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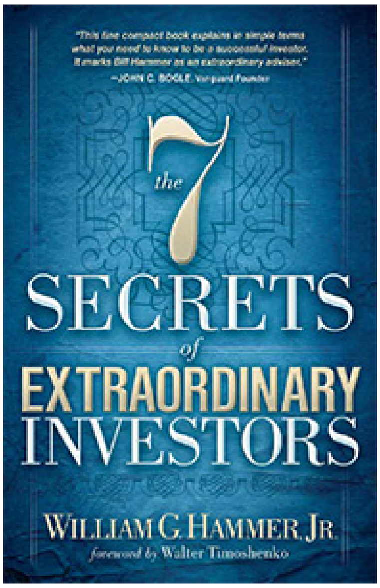

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on April 8th, 2015 | by Jack Waymire

Is Wealth Management Only for the Wealthy? – upd April 2015

Wealth management has become a set of buzzwords that financial advisors use when they sell investment and insurance products. It certainly sounds good. Consequently, you have to be very cautious when you **select advisors** who say they provide wealth management services. 75% of the time, the words are part of finely honed sales pitches that are designed to gain control of your assets.

What is Real Wealth Management?

Real wealth management is a sophisticated process that is designed to help you accumulate and preserve assets during your lifetime and distribute your assets to the right parties after you and your spouse are gone. Real wealth management also helps you maximize performance and minimize taxes, investment risk, and expenses.

Do Asset Amounts Really Matter?

The amount of assets you own does not matter. Your ability and willingness to pay fees to multiple providers matter a lot. However, the industry assumes total expenses are highly correlated to asset amounts. For example, a $10,000 fee is 1% if you own $1,000,000. It is 0.5% if you own $2,000,000. Fees as a percent of assets go down, but that may not be the driving force. A person with $1,000,000 needs the same wealth management services as the person with $2,000,000 so the real issue is your willingness to pay fees.

What are the Wealth Management Services?

There are six wealth management services: Planning, investment advice, money management, insurance, tax, and legal. Most investors are already using varying combinations of these services. For example, they have **financial planners**, money managers, insurance specialists, CPAs, and attorneys who draft their wills and other estate-related documents. Rarely are these services a seamless package of coordinated advice and services.

What is a Financial Quarterback?

The financial quarterback is an increasingly popular role that is usually provided by the financial advisor. This professional is responsible for making sure the various service providers deliver coordinated advice that is free of duplication and conflicting advice. For example, the financial planner and the CPA provide contradictory tax advice. If you do not have a quarterback, you have to take on this role yourself, which is usually a bad idea.

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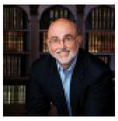
Tags: financial advisors, financial quarterback, Insurance, insurance products, insurance specialists, investment advice, investment risk, investors, money management, money managers, wealth management

About the Author



Jack Waymire Jack worked in the financial services industry for 28 years. For 21 years he was the president and chief investment officer of a registered investment advisory firm with more than 50,000 clients. He left the industry in 2003 when his book (Who's Watching Your Money?) was published by John Wiley. That same year he launched an investor information website (www.PaladinRegistry.com) that was based on the principles in his book. Jack is a columnist for Worth magazine, a frequent blogger on major financial sites, and widely quoted in the media including the Wall Street Journal, Forbes, BusinessWeek, Bloomberg, and Kiplinger.

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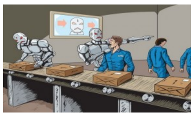

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2 Responses to *Is Wealth Management Only for the Wealthy? – upd April 2015*

JP Nicols *says:*
February 6, 2013 at 10:15 am

Good overview! Above some very large number– some firms target $10MM+, some $25MM+, others even higher– you begin to enter the realm of the Ultra High Net Worth, and the game really does begin to change. Outstanding legal, tax and investment advice are table stakes, but 85% of the reasons that wealth fails to pass down beyond the 3rd generation has nothing to do with those things. It becomes more about what they want to accomplish with their wealth, and what kind of impact they can have where it matters most to them.

Although some of the stories are now very dated, Frank Rich's 2008 book "Richistan" is a good peek into the unique characteristics of the ultra-wealthy and how much they differ from "mere millionaires".

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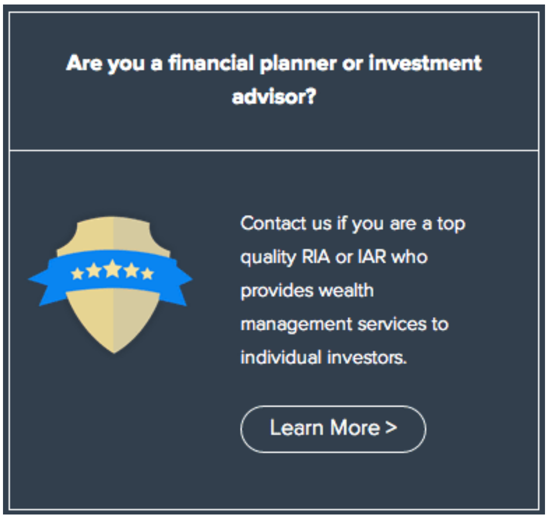

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npr

'Sports Tax Man' Is A Financial Quarterback

JULY 10, 2012 4:00 AM ET

KEVIN LEAHY

Listen to the Story

Morning Edition 3 min 18 sec

When pro athletes want help comparing contracts, they turn to financial advisers. CPA Robert Raioli advises athletes on contracts, financial decisions and tax compliance. On Twitter he's known as Sports Tax Man. His tweets calculate players' earnings per game, per inning and per point.

LINDA WERTHEIMER, HOST:

Turning, now, to professional sports. It's the off season for basketball and hockey and teams are wheeling and dealing, making trades, hoping to land star players. The athletes want the best deal too, and some of these very young millionaires clearly need advice.

NPR's Kevin Leahy consulted an accountant who calls himself the Sports Tax Man.

KEVIN LEAHY, BYLINE: Last week, point guard Steve Nash was on the market. Nash is Canadian, beloved in his home country. And the Toronto Raptors wanted him badly.

UNIDENTIFIED MAN #1: It's Nash going home and finishing his career in Canada, how nice is that? So...

UNIDENTIFIED MAN #2: He just signed a deal to work with basketball Canada and they are located in Toronto. So he'd be...

RAY RAIOLA: The way I like to look at it, he'll receive 50 cents on a dollar.

LEAHY: That last voice belongs to Robert Raiola, CPA. On Twitter, he's known as

Sports Tax Man. Raiola ignored the Prodigal Son storyline and referred to a new Canadian tax law.

RAIOLA: In 2012, the top rate in the province of Ontario is 48 percent. In 2013, the top rate will be 49.5 percent.

That means Nash would pay more tax in Toronto than if he signed in, say, California. Suddenly a big offer from the Raptors doesn't look quite as enticing. Raiola doesn't work for Steve Nash, but it's his job to think this way. He calls himself a financial quarterback.

Advice on buying cars, you know, looking after insurance on jewelry, disability insurance if they have a big contract, possibly, coming up. We also do a lot of tax compliance.

LEAHY: Raiola doesn't reveal who his clients are, but he's making a name for himself on Twitter. A colleague got him involved last summer.

RAIOLA: He said to me only twits don't tweet and it's really not a thing that a lot of CPA's do.

LEAHY: Visit the Sports Tax Man's page and you won't find his photo. Just a simple clip art image of some sports equipment and thousands of tweets calculating players' earnings per game, per inning, per point.

RAIOLA: Pitcher Cliff Lee won his first game of the year. He has made $10,750,000, per win, so far this year. On a $3 million a year salary he's only going to pay $66,000 in state tax. Ray Allen has made approximately $176 million on the court in his career. He's been paid $7,672 per point. Joey Chestnut reportedly made $10,000 for 10 minutes work at a Nathan's hot dog eating contest. Next year, Jeremy Lin will earn $15,243 per quarter, which is 12 minutes.

LEAHY: So Raiola focuses on players' salaries but he also explores financial minutiae - Per diem meal allowances, capital gains on memorabilia sales, tax write-offs for league fines.

WERTHEIMER: Here's what Raiola tweeted after an NFL player's recent DUI arrest.

RAIOLA: If he is suspended for any games in the 2012 season, he will lose $470,588 per game.

LEAHY: Just cold hard numbers. No snark, no soul-searching about athletes as role models. Raiola doesn't think people want that from him.

RAIOLA: America is fixated, not with accountants, America is fixated with money and with professional sports.

LEAHY: Twin fixations the Sports Tax Man knows well.

As for Steve Nash, the Canadian? He wound up signing with the Los Angeles Lakers. He'll play with Kobe Bryant, soak up the sunshine and avoid those steep Canadian taxes.

Kevin Leahy, NPR News.

(SOUNDBITE OF SONG, "TAXMAN")

THE BEATLES: (Singing) 'Cause I'm the taxman, yeah, I'm the taxman. Be thankful I don't take it all. 'Cause I'm the taxman, yeah I'm the taxman.

WERTHEIMER: You're listening to MORNING EDITION from NPR News.

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You be your own financial quarterback when it comes to retirement planning

Rick Drennan

Beach Mirror | Apr 24, 2014

Former CFL quarterback Chuck Ealey is now an advisor, manager and director with Investors Group.

MISSISSAUGA — Chuck Ealey, a former star quarterback in the CFL, now makes his living mapping out financial game plans for retiring seniors.

Ealey, 64, is approaching retirement himself. But even as he prepares to file for his Canada Pension and Old Age Security benefits, he knows that many people have not been not as fortunate in life as himself.

He's out to help those who need his help.

Although he is known as a football hero, Ealey says sports was always just a tool he used to get himself a Bachelor of Business degree.

For the last 26 years he has thrived as an advisor, manager and director with Investors Group.

One of the core messages he delivers to young people is that they need to make wise decisions because choices today will impact their lives forever.

He wants his clients to enjoy their golden years. That means not only growing their nest egg, but spending it, to enjoy a freer lifestyle.

He says people who are planning for retirement have to clarify their goals.

To that end, he has compiled a "Top 10" list that can guide those who are heading into their senior years.

• Have a comprehensive financial plan that covers investing and retirement.

• Decide what you want to do and when you want to do it. In other words, what is your investment time frame?

• Have a vision of your future that includes all the facets of your retirement life including incomes and expenses.

• Practice good health and wellness.

• Decide whether your retirement will be freedom from work or freedom to work at something you truly enjoy.

• Include tax planning. Talk to an advisor on splitting income.

• Take your time to make the right decisions regarding your level of personal risk.

• You've earned it … now spend it! You've put away a retirement nest egg and you should spend it to truly live your retirement dreams.

• Giving is good. One option is to establish a private foundation. This allows your name or your family's name to be permanently associated with the causes you support.

• Enjoy your personal relationships. Be adventurous, find a happy life balance.

• Talk to your financial advisor when formulating a plan.

New course for financial 'quarterback'

National Post ·

The Canadian Securities Institute has created a new professional designation catering to the new emerging profession of Wealth Advisor.

The Chartered Professional (Ch. P) Strategic Wealth credential rolled out late in 2007, with 160 graduates so far. CSI president and CEO Roberta Wilton says the Professional Wealth Advisor will become a distinct profession within the financial services industry.

The focus is on wealthy clients who require a multidisciplinary approach across such diverse disciplines as securities, financial planning, insurance and other previously separate "silos."

"It is certainly bringing together the knowledge and skills to meet the compelling needs of wealthy people," Wilton says, "We see a growing group of affluent Boomers, two-income couples, entrepreneurs and business people moving into this space. They have increasingly complex needs." Strategic wealth management links all products, services and options to the various (often predictable) stages of a client's life cycle.

Demand is being driven by the rising number of wealthy Canadians who require such a holistic approach to managing their wealth. The richest 20% of families still hold 70% of Canada's $5-trillion in net worth and "these families are getting richer," Wilton says. From 1999 to 2005, their median net worth grew by 29% to $863,000, with average net worth rising 43% to $1.3-million.

At the top end, the top 40 "ultra-wealthy" Canadian families have net worth of more than $1-billion. The next band is net worth of $5-million to $30-million. But there are 2.7 million Canadians in the "emerging affluent" category, with net financial assets of $1-million to $5-million. This cohort is still in its wealth-acquisition years. Coming up behind it is the even larger "mass affluent" market with net assets below $1-million, not counting residential real estate.

Wilton envisages a predictable career path for financial advisors. Newer ones may start off in a particular "silo" such as mutual funds or insurance and work with younger clients who are not yet wealthy. As they pick up experience and credentials and their assets under management grow, they will attract wealthier clients and eventually seek to qualify as professional Wealth Advisors.

The ultimate role is to act as a "quarterback" to the wealthy, overseeing and coordinating client relationships with other professionals, such as accountants, lawyers, estate planners and trust specialists.

Like most advanced designations, there is a prerequisite: Wealth Management Essentials, which covers the basics of financial planning and investment management. While the designation will be the ultimate advanced credential for veteran wealth managers, Wilton also expects the Ch. P. will be attractive to younger advisors who are " looking for new and different ways" to add value to clients.

In a video interview, Wilton said the Ch. P. "is going to be a pinnacle designation ... It's something we think they will increasingly aspire to as they seek to turn their business to wealthy clients."

To qualify for the Ch. P., practitioners must establish their competence in eight core areas, including advanced risk-management processes, behavioural science techniques, and collaborating with clients to convert client assets into income. Then candidates must pass two three-hour exams on the building and management of high net worth.

The final piece, dubbed "the capstone," is Strategic Wealth 360, which requires the creation of a customized wealth plan for professional actors playing the role of tough affluent clients. Students must discover their personal lifestyle choices, financial needs and risk tolerance, then create a plan to nurture the client's prosperity and security over the full course of their life cycle. This has to be presented to a panel of experts in one hour.

Wilton believes the feebased compensation model may in the long run be more consistent with the role of being a financial quarterback. CSI has a white paper on feebased compensation. Wealth managers "may require different ways of getting paid. If you are that quarterback managing a range of services, you can't necessarily be paid on a commission basis." The industry is "not quite there yet," but " this is where we think it's heading."

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...le with the traditional commission mode of compensation. ...hat costs can be lower for clients under the transaction model. The course is "tough," Strano says, and he's looking forward to finishing it.

Catherine Fauquire, senior vice-president with BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc., says clients should be able to choose between either compensation model and "some prefer feebased." She finished the course in November and found the role-playing sessions particularly valuable. "It was rich and difficult. You have to squeeze the information out" of the actor/clients. It was tougher than working with real clients, where there is already some rapport and you "know more about the soft edges."

Tom McCullough, president of Northwood Stephens Private Counsel Inc., was one of the first to take the course and provide input.

"The Ch. P. is a first-class program and I'm glad I did it. I think it will become a much-sought-after designation in the years to come," he says, "The case study was appropriately wide-ranging and complex so as to replicate real-life wealthy families, like the ones we deal with in our family office practice."

Asked about industry reaction to the Ch. P., Wilton said it "doesn't take too many discussions with leading financial institutions to see that wealth management or dealing with the wealthy is where they want to move their businesses. They tend to get it very quickly."

-CSI's Web site is csi.ca.

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« Should I Keep the House?

Steer Clear of Financial Advice from Friends and Family During Your Divorce

posted by admin 3:42 PM
Thursday, November 3, 2011

Imagine you are enjoying a wonderful evening at a five-star restaurant. You'd like to order a bottle of wine, but you're not sure which one would best accompany your meal. Would you ask the bus boy or valet for their recommendation? Of course not! If you're ordering wine at a five-star restaurant, you want the advice of the wine expert on staff. Naturally, you would turn to the sommelier.

The same logic applies to other aspects of daily life. If you have a problem with your car, you take it to a trusted mechanic. If you have a concern about your heart health, you consult a cardiologist, etc.

So, to whom should a woman turn when she has concerns about the financial aspects of her divorce?

The answer is simple: She should consult only with a professional divorce financial expert – someone who is specially trained to handle the multifaceted financial aspects of today's complex divorce settlement agreements.

Unfortunately, that's often easier said than done.

Why? Because when it comes to divorce, there's no shortage of friends and family who are willing to lend their advice.

In fact, as I see it, divorcing women need to learn to make an important distinction. They need to learn: 1) where to get financial advice, and then, just as importantly, 2) where NOT to get financial advice. Quite frankly, the opinions and recommendations of friends and family can often be more detrimental than helpful. They all mean well, of course. But, this is definitely one of those instances where a little knowledge can be a dangerous thing.

To illustrate my point, here is my short list of people you should "tune out" if they start volunteering financial advice during your divorce:

1. Friends, family, or anyone who claims to have "been there" (or knows someone who has)

Lots of people have a divorce story to tell, and usually, they're quite eager to share it. In reality, though, no two divorces are alike. Even relatively fundamental things like differences in geography can have a profound impact. Just because a friend of a friend who lives in Silicon Valley received a settlement that included half of her husband's tech company doesn't mean you will get the same deal in your east coast divorce. (See my earlier post for more details about the differences between Community Property and Equitable Distribution States.)

Likewise, even though your cousin kept her marital home , that doesn't mean you should. And, discussion about your stock portfolio can lead to a veritable minefield of misinformation, as well. Uncle Joe, who helped you get on the right track with investing as a twenty-something, just isn't the right person to help you understand how dividing your current portfolio will impact your long-term financial well-being.

As I mentioned earlier, all of these people are well-intentioned, and there's no doubt that they can provide support for you in other ways during your divorce. But, when it comes to advice about your finances, please learn to say, "Thanks –but, no thanks."

2. A financial professional who doesn't specialize in divorce

A CPA can file your taxes or give you a snapshot of your current and past financial status. A typical financial adviser is hired to help you invest in stocks, bonds and mutual funds. But should you rely on financial professionals like these during your divorce? No, you shouldn't.

Instead, you need someone with a skill set specific to divorce finances. A Certified Divorce Financial Analyst (CDFA) specializes in divorce finance and will carefully weigh each settlement proposal presented and project how it will affect your short- and long-term finances while calculating the tax implications for each scenario.

Keep this in mind: The US is home to more than 1 million accountants and some 320,000 financial advisors. But there are only about 3,500 CDFAs who are specifically trained in the financial aspects of divorce.

What's more, many CDFAs have completed additional education and training. For example, in addition to being a CDFA, I have attended law school and have also completed dozens of advanced training courses in finance and divorce, including many of the same continuing education courses that are required for divorce and other attorneys (trust and estate, asset protection, etc.).

3. An attorney

Finding a firm that specializes in divorce/family law and dedicates at least 75 percent of its practice to divorce is a MUST.

But, these days, there are numerous critical financial tasks that are beyond the scope of even the finest divorce attorney's expertise. For example, preparing financial affidavits and projecting the financial and tax implications of each divorce settlement option are now the purview of CDFAs.

Put another way, think of the CDFA as the financial quarterback of your divorce team. A CDFA is responsible for creating comprehensive financial analyses and projections so you and your divorce attorney can fully understand the short- and long-term financial and tax implications of each proposed divorce settlement offer. Then, your attorney can use that information to substantiate and justify his/her positions when negotiating with your husband's attorney.

Without a doubt, if you're going through a divorce, you're going to get advice –whether you asked for it or not. The trick is to know which advice to heed and which advice to ignore. Get the specialized help you need by hiring a CDFA. They're the professionals that can evaluate your financial circumstances before, during and after a divorce, while helping you plan for a secure financial future.

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いいね！ 2人が「いいね！」と言っています。「いいね！」をクリックして、友達に知らせましょう。

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This entry was posted on Thursday, November 3rd, 2011 at 3:42 pm and is filed under alimony, Divorce Debt, Divorce Financial Analyst, divorce retirement issues, Divorce Tax Issues, legal separation, Splitting Assets, Women Business Owners. You can follow any responses to this entry through the RSS 2.0 feed. Both comments and pings are currently closed.

One Response to "Steer Clear of Financial Advice from Friends and Family During Your Divorce"

1. Mr. Landers says:
   December 19, 2011 at 7:48 pm

   The purpose of this email is to express my opinion regarding the article you wrote for Forbes Online Magazine on Alimony Reform on July 12, 2011.
   Mr. Landers, obviously, you have never been married to an abusive woman who berates you in front of your friends, family and children, who belittles you with every opportunity she gets and constantly threatens you with the consequences of divorce for men; A woman who is verbally abusive to the point of slapping you on the face and treats you like a child. Please allow me to tell you that not all men are mean and abusive. I live in the State of New Jersey where, and as you may already know, the alimony laws are very favorable toward women.
   I was married for 23 years and despite the fact that the marriage was extremely painful and emotionally draining for the last ten years we were married, I stayed because I knew that my future was bleak if I ever file for divorce. This led me to an uncompromising depression and extreme anguish. My wife was mentally unstable and manic-depressive. This made my life a living hell. Even after I moved out of the house, I continued to pay the mortgage and worked three jobs. In the end, I quit one job and consequently could not afford to pay the mortgage. She then filed for divorce.

My income is 2.5 times that of hers and I have the same job for over 20 years. At the beginning of the marriage, our incomes were comparable, but then I kept getting increases and she kept switching employers and her salary remained stagnant.
The result of my divorce is that, I have to pay $900.00 in permanent alimony and half my civil service and military pension. This is exactly the type of outcome I was afraid of and threaded for many years.
Mr. Landers, we are not living in the 19th century anymore and sewing circles have been extinguished. If you go to any college or university and take a peak in any higher education classroom, you will notice that the large majority of students are women. That is because more women elect to obtain a higher education degree than men. Is this a fact that the proponents of Alimony Reform have noticed?
Many a times, I have witnessed unhappy couples living together, to the point where the husband lives in the basement and the wife stays in the bedroom. This is quite simply because; "It's cheaper to keep her."
This is what matrimony laws do to people in this country. Couples are forced to live unhappy lives to the point where someone loses a temper and then it is too late.
Furthermore, you failed to mention the fact that many women who receive alimony, have boyfriends and receive monetary support from them. Women who receive alimony can go on to live better lives, while the husbands, because of the financial burden, are not able to start new lives. Is this fair?
And so Mr. Landers, Alimony is severely skewed and unfair to men. Some states such as New Jersey, have not kept up with times and treat male litigants as cave men and women like mistreated damsel-in-distress who need to be protected and supported for life.
If we are proposing that women need financial assistance from men after the divorce, is the mere act of alimony an admission that women are inferior to men?

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Is Your Investment Firm Your Financial Quarterback?

David Lyon, CEO of Main Street Financial, says clients see them as a financial quarterback - coordinating all their investment needs with accountants, lawyers, and other service providers. Main Street Financial's investment strategy involves a patient approach: In other words, "the

Mar 13, 2015

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