



POST DIVORCE CHECKLIST

Here are a few financial and legal steps you should consider doing immediately after your divorce is final.

<i>Your Accounts & Credit</i>	<i>Time Frame</i>
Change your name on all your financial documents, bank statements, etc.	Immediately
Close and change names on all joint accounts. Make sure all credit card bills and loans are paid promptly and closed by you or your spouse if responsible.	Immediately
Open a checking/savings account in your name	Immediately
Establish your own credit history. Open a credit card in your name.	Immediately
Set up a liquid account with up to 3 to 6 months of cost-of-living expenses in a money market fund or a Certificate of Deposit (CD)	Immediately
Check investment accounts to see that ownership of stocks, bonds and mutual funds are properly listed.	Immediately/final decree
<i>Your Identification</i>	
Change your name with Social Security	Once you receive final decree
Change your name on your driver's license	Once you receive final decree
<i>Your Property</i>	
Change title on your automobiles if necessary.	Immediately
Change over your automobile insurance	Immediately
Have your spouse's name taken off of the mortgage for the house or apartment.	Immediately
Make sure you transfer ownership of all deeds for your homes or automobiles, boats, etc. and that they are recorded at the appropriate county recorder's office.	Immediately
<i>Your Insurance & Finances</i>	
Change your beneficiaries on all Life Insurance policies, etc.	Immediately
Change beneficiaries on all Retirement & Pension accounts.	Immediately
Health Insurance – be sure to revise coverage for spouse and/or dependents depending on divorce decree.	Immediately
If you have a QDRO (Qualified Domestic Relations Order) make sure it's done.	Check w/Attorney
Execute a new will or trust. Designate guardians for your children if necessary. Be sure to update your health care proxy and your power of attorney documents.	Immediately
Go over your settlement agreement – go over every detail with your attorney or your financial advisor to make sure everything is completed.	Immediately
Review your tax withholding allowances with your tax advisor or CPA.	Immediately