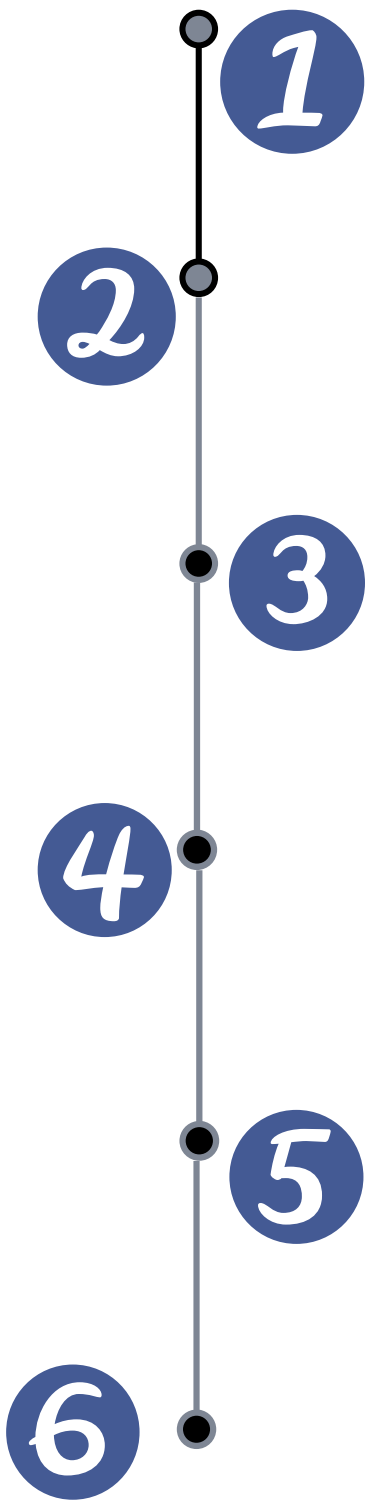


# STEPS IN A DIVORCE



**1** STEP 1: File a petition for divorce. This sets out the basic information required by the Texas Family Code. Your spouse, the respondent will be formally served with this petition.

**2** STEP 2: Your petition may include a request for a temporary orders hearing. This gets you a quick court orders for things such as custody possession of the residence, and spousal support.

**3** STEP 3: To determine each party's positions and value of the marital estates, discovery will be conducted to allow for the exchange of information.

**4** STEP 4: If the respondent contests to the divorce, the case will be taken before the judge, who may require both parties to participate in mediation. You and the respondent will meet with a neutral third party to negotiate and reach a settlement.

**5** STEP 5: If both parties do not reach an agreement during mediation, the divorce will go to trial, the majority being tried before a judge, but a trial by jury is possible.

**6** STEP 6: When the judge signs off on the final decree, your marriage is officially dissolved. The judge can only finalize the divorce if at least 60 days have passed since the original petition was filed. Reaching this step typically happens 6-18 months prior to filing.

# ABOUT US

## Client Care

We pride ourselves in delivering the most exceptional client care in the DFW Metroplex. Whenever you call or email, we will always do our best to get back to you in a timely manner. We know this isn't easy. We promise to always have listening ears and to put your needs first during this tough time.

## Ready to Fight

Our attorneys devote an exceptional amount of time towards every case to ensure we make no mistakes. We will always do what is in your interest, to help you get your fair share in the divorce.

## Background

Joshua Carpenter established our firm in 2004, with the goal of helping as many people as possible. Throughout the years he has been able to expand his practice to more areas, and more clients.

