

Reminders for after your divorce hearing

Some of these may be things you need to do as part of your divorce agreement, while others are things you might just want to consider updating.

- If your divorce involves transferring any part of a retirement account or pension plan, make sure a **Qualified Domestic Relations Order (QDRO)** is prepared and filed.
- **Change your beneficiaries** on the following types of account:
 - Retirement accounts – IRAs, 401(k) accounts, pensions, 403(b) accounts, annuities, etc.
 - Brokerage accounts – some require beneficiaries, some do not
 - Life insurance policies
- Work on getting **names off of house mortgages and deeds**, as needed.
- **If you are changing your name** pursuant to the divorce, obtain a Certificate of Absolute Divorce from the court and bring it to:
 - Social Security
 - Registry of Motor Vehicles
 - Passport Office
 - Once you change your name on these three things, it should be fairly easy to change your name on other documents, such as your library card, credit cards, bank accounts, etc. Update your homeowner's or rental insurance policy.
- **Update your will**, which determines who will receive your property after you die. Make sure that it conforms with the terms of the Separation Agreement.
- This is also a good time to **update your health care proxy and power of attorney**, which go into effect if you become unable to make medical or financial decisions for yourself.
- Make sure you are each transferring all property in a timely manner as required by Separation Agreement.
- **Change title and registration for your automobile** and tell your auto insurer.
- **Obtain life insurance** if required by the Agreement.
- Open up **bank accounts** in your name only or change title on joint accounts.