

## Settling a Divorce

The difference between following an in-court approach compared to an out-of-court strategy.

( in-court	( out-of-court )
COI	ntrol
A judge makes decisions about your future and family. Your lawyer will control all aspects of your case.	You will be able to make decisions based on what is important to you and your family. You will not need a lawyer to talk for you or control the process.
C	ost
The judicial system is complex and time consuming, involving expensive motions, hearings, conferences, and trials. Attorneys will need to handle all of the work and communication, which adds to the expense.	You never step into a court to resolve your divorce. This saves money on court expenses, and ensures less reliance on attorneys, resulting in substantial savings.
ti	me
You will need to attend regular court hearings set with little flexibility or concern for your schedule.	You control the time-line, the agenda and the pace.
fo	ocus
Your lawyers will be argumentative with a win-lose mentality. It will be a constant battle, where focus will be given to filing proceedings in court to make your case.	Mediators and Collaborative Law professionals will focus on problem solving. They will work with you and your spouse to find a win-win solution for everyone involved.
pri	vacy
There will be no consideration of your personal privacy. All of your issues and your past may be aired publicly and used to make decisions.	All of your meetings will be in a small, private setting with complete confidentiality.
chil	dren
Long-term conflict between divorced parents causes	The best interests of the children is the primary focus.

By encouraging parents to communicate and

collaborate to resolve the divorce, conflict between

parents is reduced during and after the divorce.

serious negative physical and mental health effects

on children. Divorce in court encourages conflict

between parents that lasts well after the divorce.