

Trying to Save Money May End Up Costing You More

Who can blame you for trying to save some money by not paying a lawyer to do the separation agreement, cohabitation agreement or marriage contract?

Invariably, in trying to save money it can unfortunately end up costing you more because either you or the other person in the agreement has a change of heart or had someone say the terms you agreed to are not right.

It might have cost you, say, \$1,200 or \$2,000 to negotiate and prepare the original separation agreement, but you are now finding yourself facing a court battle which may end up costing you \$10,000 or considerably more (possibly \$20,000) to set things straight.

Grounds for setting aside the agreement may be as simple as you, or the other person, did not understand the terms to which you were agreeing and you, or the other person, did not have independent legal advice. It could be that one or both of you did not fully disclose what assets and liabilities you had and so one or both of you could not know whether the settlement reached was a fair one.

Your privately prepared agreement could be likened to building a house on sand. The foundation is likely to give way, damaging the house. How much more difficult and expensive it is to try and repair that house than if you had built the house on solid ground in the first place?

Yes, legal fees may appear steep, but there is no substitute to trying to get it right the first time.

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