

**From:** Lili Vasileff <lvasileff@aol.com>

**Subject:** Spring 2011 Newsletter

**Reply:** lvasileff@aol.com



# *Divorce And Money Matters, LLC*

*Spring 2011 is Here*

**Dear Lili,**

**"Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending."**

**- Maria Robinson**



**Lili is now a featured blogger on the national FPA website and for Huffington Post as divorce expert!**

**IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE:**

"Dividing the Nest Egg in Divorce," by: Lili Vasileff April 11, 2011

"The Keep Your Cash Divorce," by: Jean Chatzky feat. Lili Vasileff, March 31, 2011

"Five Actions to Take Before Even Think About Divorce," blog by: Lili Vasileff, April 29, 2011

"Taking Inventory of Your Marriage," by: Lili Vasileff, March 7, 2011



**Dividing the Nest Egg in Divorce**

**April 11, 2011**

**By: Lili A. Vasileff, CFP(r),  
CDFA(tm)**

**Published by: FPA Journal**

Nothing is more heart-wrenching than to realize that your savings for retirement and your golden years will be fractured because of a divorce. Just like all your other assets accumulated in marriage, your retirement plans may be "marital property," and thus subject

to an equitable division in divorce.

What is a retirement plan? Usually this means either a defined contribution plan (such as a 401(k) or 403 (b) plan) or a defined benefit plan (a traditional fixed "pension" that a government employee might receive). More than 46 million workers are currently covered by an employer-provided retirement plan and are often important considerations in separation, divorce, and other domestic relationship proceedings.

Valuing and dividing retirement plans is not simple. Typically, you need a lawyer who specializes in this area. Retirement plans are complicated and have long-term consequences. Many family lawyers don't wish to test the strength of their malpractice coverage by dabbling in them. Some retirement plans may require an expert who can value them in present value dollars if a divorcing spouse prefers to offset the retirement plan with other assets.

[See Entire Article](#)

The preceding content was originally published on the Financial Planning Association(c) website, [www.fpanet.org](http://www.fpanet.org).

## The Keep-Your Cash Divorce

By: Jean Chatzky featuring Lili A. Vasileff

Published by: More Magazine

Divorces are resolved very differently today than they were in the past, when women were treated like stereotypical 1950's housewives and were often awarded alimony and full custody of the children. In 2011 there's a greater chance that the wife is the spouse with more money in the bank, a substantial retirement account and the bigger salary, and judges will treat her accordingly.

New divorce rule: Protect Your Interests Before you File

If you're preparing to ask your spouse for a divorce, some financial planners recommend opening up an individual account in a bank where you and your husband have never done business. Check with your lawyer first, then set aside enough money to pay your legal fees and keep yourself going for a couple of months. Savings of this kind give many women some psychological relief, says **Lili A. Vasileff**, president of the Association of Divorce Financial Planners, in Greenwich, Connecticut.

New divorce rule: Once you've filed, Assemble a Team

A marriage involves finances, investments, tax planning and insurance, so for your divorce, you'll need experts who can advise you on each of these topics. In addition to a divorce lawyer, look for a fee-only financial advisor skilled in investments, taxes and the divorce process. And if you have valuable art or small business, you may need an appraiser who has specific experience with marital dissolution.

If you suspect that your husband has been hiding money from you, says **Vasileff**, you may want to hire either a forensic accountant, who is a CPA trained to locate hidden funds, or a financial planner with divorce credentials. But keep in mind that despite rampant paranoia, hidden assets are not the norm: A study by the accounting firm Grant Thornton determined that in 2007, hidden funds existed in just 20 percent of divorce cases. Plus, paying someone to look for secret funds is not cheap. Costs start at about \$10,000 and can rise into the



hundreds of thousands if the investigator has to dig into privately owned businesses or hunt for money sequestered abroad, "Depending on the marital estate, when you're looking for millions, it's worth it. For \$25,000, not so much," says **Vasileff**.

[See Entire Article](#)



## **5 Financial Actions to Take Before You Even Think About Divorce**

**Blog Posted By: Lili A. Vasileff, CFP(r), CDFP(tm)**

**April 29, 2011**

**Published by: Huffington Post**

Divorce is a complicated process, emotionally, legally and financially. Thoughtful planning and patience, however, can make your decision to divorce and the process itself smoother. Planning should begin from the moment you have a single

notion about getting a divorce. Trust your instincts that divorce may be in the cards and begin to plan logically while you still can. Take note for example, that much of the business of private investigators comes from spouses engaged in in *pre-divorce planning*. Savvy divorce lawyers tell prospective clients to find out as much as possible - as early as possible -- before the papers are even served. Divorce lawyers Steven Fuchs and Sharon Sooho advise women to "win" the divorce battle with the ancient Chinese tactics of strategic planning, stealth and deception.

So put an end to your natural inclination to be a "good girl" who only wants "what is rightly mine, fair and reasonable" -- because you may be in for a big surprise. Men are used to planning; and, preparing for battle is the key to winning. Don't lose your divorce because you enter unprepared. Plan for what's coming and learn what is needed to get the best possible divorce outcome. Here are five critical financial actions you should take before you even think about divorce.

1. Copy your financial statements
2. Deal with your credit
3. Decrease liabilities
4. Set aside money
5. Hire a divorce financial planner

[See Entire Blog](#)

## **Taking Inventory of Your Marriage**

**March 7, 2011**

**By: Lili A. Vasileff, CFP(r), CDFP(tm)**

**Published by: FPA Journal**

Your marriage is coming to an end. You look around and suddenly realize how do you go about deciding who gets what? Who gets the antique silver your mother-in-law gave you on your



wedding day? Who gets the stock in Apple? The furniture? Credit card debts?

How do you divvy up the accumulated belongings?

Division of property is a fundamental part of the divorce process. Divorcing couples are best off making their own asset and debt inventories and jointly deciding on how property should be divided. There are a number of methods of deciding who gets what fairly and some involve reasonable compromise.

However, if the divorcing couple cannot agree on how property is to be divided, the courts will ultimately impose an agreement on that couple, at the couples' expense. For this reason, you need to understand what your state divorce laws dictate. Within the context of law, you will still need to be prepared to make educated financial decisions about what is in your best interest.

A divorce financial planner is trained in the interdisciplinary context of your state's divorce laws and planning. A divorce financial planner assists you and your attorney to make appropriate financial decisions on thorough analysis and long-term projections.

In summary, as you consider your divorce settlement, you may be tempted to sign to get it over with. Or, alternatively you may expend huge emotional energy and legal fees fighting for sentimental tokens lacking genuine worth. Your goal is to arrive at a fair and equitable settlement that is exactly what you think it is - without hidden costs, hidden taxes, or foolish mistakes. A divorce financial planner is an expert who will help you organize, analyze and negotiate for a well thought out financial result. The division of marital property is just a piece of the whole equation of divorce; however, it is a onetime decision that may affect you for a very long time.

[See Entire Article](#)

The preceding content was originally published on the Financial Planning Association(c) website, [www.fpanet.org](http://www.fpanet.org).



## **ALLIE'S DREAM, INC.**

Lili has been busy launching a not-for-profit organization called "Allie's Dream." Allie is Lili's daughter.

[www.alliesdream.org](http://www.alliesdream.org)

Allie's Dream is a unique adult day program for young adults with developmental disabilities that provides for learning, independence, recreation and integrated therapies.

Allie's Dream, Inc. is a nonprofit organization with IRS for 501(c)(3) recognition. You can make charitable contributions to us which will be deductible as permitted by law. The full amount of the donation is received by Allie's Dream. Please donate via website or mail to to: Lili Vasileff c/o of Two Sound View Drive, Suite 100, Greenwich, CT 06830.

To learn more, please visit our website for [www.alliesdream.org](http://www.alliesdream.org)

**Thank you!**

**To read more about Lili A. Vasileff, please visit the links below.**



## Testimonials

### Library of Publications

[www.divorcematters.com](http://www.divorcematters.com)

## **About Divorce and Money Matters, LLC**

Lili A. Vasileff is a nationally recognized expert in financial planning for divorce as a practitioner, writer and speaker. She has many years of experience and an interdisciplinary knowledge of legal and financial issues. She brings clarity to complicated marital property and complex compensation issues in the divorce process. Lili holds client information to the highest standards of confidentiality and privacy.

Lili practices comprehensive financial planning, specializing in divorce planning and investment advisory services, in Connecticut and New York. She supports divorcing clients who engage in mediation, collaborative divorce or litigation. She maintains credentials and licenses as a fee only, independent CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professional and a Certified Divorce Financial Analyst™.

### **Divorce and Money Matters!, LLC**

Lili Vasileff

CFP (r), CDS, CDFPA (tm)

Registered Investment Advisor

President of the Association of Divorce Financial Planners (ADFP)

[www.divorcematters.com](http://www.divorcematters.com)

203.393.7200 and 203.622.4911

email: [lvasileff@aol.com](mailto:lvasileff@aol.com)

*Please forward my newsletters to those friends and colleagues that you feel may benefit from the information. Please do so by clicking on the "forward email" link on the bottom of each newsletter.*

CFP® , CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ and federally registered CFP (with flame logo) are certification marks owned by Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards Inc. These marks are awarded to individuals who successfully complete CFP™ Board's initial and ongoing certification requirements.

