

# BURDENED BY DIVORCE?

3 Time-Sensitive Moves To Help Protect  
Your Financial Wellbeing



Whether you are still in the process of getting divorced or looking at it in your rearview mirror, it's never an easy journey. Dealing with the effects on yourself, your children, and the people you love can make financial decisions fall to the bottom of the pile.

But, taking control of your finances and finding the confidence to kickstart your new life is about much more than splitting assets and signing documents.

It's about envisioning your ideal future, avoiding the financial pitfalls, and answering the big picture questions that may be on your mind:

"Will I be okay?"

"Can I afford to \_\_\_?"

"What should I do with my money?"

"What do I need to do next with my taxes...  
investments...retirement plans...?"

Divorce can be a complicated and confusing journey.

**However, finding clarity about your current situation and the confidence to build your future is within your reach.**

If you've been dealing with the day-to-day needs of your family and negotiating with your former spouse, it's easy to get lost in the weeds, just keeping your head above water. However, there are some next steps you should take as soon as possible to help protect yourself and avoid expensive consequences that can unknowingly sneak up.

**This guide contains step-by-step actions to gain clarity, confidence, and power in your life and help protect your financial fresh start.**



**REDWOOD**  
FINANCIAL PLANNING

## MOVE #1:

### Assemble Team YOU

Divorce is a journey with many ups and downs. It's vital to treat yourself with respect and kindness, and work through the thoughts and feelings you may experience as you do the work of creating your fresh start.

- Get the psychological, spiritual, and emotional support you need through a support group, religious organization, or therapeutic professional
- Make time for the people, interests, and hobbies that energize you
- Find your tribe of listeners, friends, and supportive people who have your back
- Talk to a financial professional who understands the ins and outs of divorce and how to plan for life afterward

*Don't have one yet? Call the office at the number below to set up a no-obligation Fresh Start Assessment*

## MOVE #2:

### Act on These Urgent Nuts & Bolts NOW

Once your divorce is final, it's normal to want a break from all the paperwork, but there are a few critical tasks you should complete as soon as possible to protect yourself. Want some help with these urgent to-dos? Contact the office at the number below and we'll help you get started.

- Close joint bank and credit accounts and open individual accounts for yourself
- Request a credit report to ensure all joint accounts are closed
- Change all automatic payments and payroll deposits to your individual account
- Change the passwords and PINs on your accounts
- Confirm your health insurance status
- Update emergency contacts and medical records
- Implement your QDRO (Qualified Domestic Relations Order) immediately. Don't wait!

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- Work with your financial professional to transfer all accounts to your name immediately
- Update the beneficiaries on all your brokerage accounts, retirement accounts, life insurance policies, and Transfer on Death (ToD) accounts
- Revoke and update any existing Power of Attorney, Health Care Proxy, and Living Will
- Retitle assets into your name

## MOVE #3:

### Map Out YOUR Fresh Start

Building your ideal future with YOU at the center starts with the fundamentals.

- Work with your financial professional to understand your current situation and establish personal goals
- Create new tax projections for your new filing status
- Analyze your investment strategies in light of YOUR goals and risk tolerance
- Update your Social Security planning and retirement income projections
- Update your will, trusts, and estate plans

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# Ready to Transform Divorce Overwhelm Into Your Confident Fresh Start?

**During a transformation as complex as divorce, it's challenging to know exactly what you need to do to protect yourself and move forward. The sooner you get a clear snapshot of your current circumstances and clarity around your next steps, the sooner you can start building your ideal life.**

It may be hard to think long-term right now, but take a moment to imagine how it will feel to greet your future with clarity, excitement, inspiration, and hope.

When you feel the freedom and excitement of putting yourself first without compromising your needs, you'll know that you can finally feel great about where you are in life.

**Though it might seem overwhelming to tackle financial tasks now, it's vital that you take action now to protect yourself from unexpected tax consequences or expensive financial surprises that may be lurking after your divorce.**

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**The first step is the hardest. And you don't have to take it alone...**

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I'd like to invite you to ask me those questions directly in a 1-on-1 conversation. You'll walk away with complete clarity about what to do next. We'll answer your questions; talk about the decisions you'll need to make; and help you walk away feeling smart, capable, empowered with your money, and in control of your future. Contact us now to get started with your complimentary **Fresh Start Assessment**.

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