



Hartley & McGehee

A Limited Liability Law Partnership, LLP

Excellence In Family Law

Volume I 2009

Edition I

FALL 2009

Are You In Need Of
Family Law Advice?
We can Help!

We specialize in all areas of
family law, including
divorce, child custody,
paternity and adoption.

Address:

Kailua Professional Cntr II
40 Aulike St., Ste 314
Kailua, HI 96734

Tel: 808-263-6900
Fax: 808 263-6982
HMFamilylaw.com

Attorneys:

Steven L. Hartley
Elsa F. M. McGehee
Seth R. Harris
Mari L. Kishimoto

Paralegal Staff:

Kalani Kim
Elsie Miyashiro

Office Manager:

Stephanie Suzuki

Admin Assistant:

Eileen Tortuga

Intake Coordinator:

Renee Salmo

Legal Insights

By Steven L. Hartley

No matter what the issues in your case are, litigation in court should always be the last resort. When issues are submitted to the court for resolution, the judge is obligated to discern and consider the facts and reach a decision within the "box" of the law. Judges are constrained by the applicable legal statutes, rules and caselaw precedents in their decisions. As such, there is often no room for real compromise or creativity in those decisions.

However, when cases are resolved outside of court through various methods of alternative dispute resolution, the ultimate resolution is up to the parties. In this way, the parties are able to be creative and to think outside of the legal "box" and reach solutions that are "win-win" instead of "win-lose". Parties who settle their issues also maintain control over the outcomes of their cases, as opposed to having the judge decide issues for them.

Although not all cases can be resolved outside of court, and parties need to be prepared for litigation just in case this is the only way to resolve an issue, settlement is by far the best way to ensure a fair and just resolution. So, before you launch into time consuming and expensive court litigation, make sure you have done all you can first to resolve the issues through settlement.

If you have any questions about settlement techniques or alternatives or any other family law questions, please call us at (808) 263-6900 or visit our website at www.HMFamilylaw.com

IN A NUTSHELL: OUR CONTINUING PLEDGE

On September 1, 2009, Frank T. Lockwood retired from the practice of law and Lockwood & Hartley transitioned into Hartley & McGehee, LLP, a Limited Liability Law Partnership.

Led by two of Hawaii's premier family law attorneys, Steven L. Hartley & Elsa F. M. McGehee, Hartley & McGehee will carry on Lockwood & Hartley's long tradition of serving Hawaii's people in all areas of family law with excellence.

Throughout our careers, we have committed ourselves to serve our clients' as well as their children's needs. That commitment, combined with the use of high tech office equipment, high standards of legal services and personal integrity, has earned us the respect of our colleagues in the bar and on the bench, and the trust and confidence of our clients.

When you are facing a divorce, paternity matter, child custody dispute, or other difficult family situation, we believe your future is much too important to rest in the hands of just one attorney. This is why we handle every case as a team, from the very beginning to the final resolution. As a team, we have the ability to completely understand all the strengths, weaknesses, and special circumstances that are involved in your case by researching every aspect of your case using state of the art information and technology. As a team, we can organize, process, and resolve the most complicated family law related matters. As a team, you can trust us for successful resolutions and results.

We look forward to continuing to serve you with professionalism, expertise and, above all, excellence.