

Virginia Legal Separation Fairfax County The Irving Law Firm Living Apart Legal separation in Virginia is not a formal legal status in the way it is recognized in some other states, but the period of living separate and apart that Virginia requires before a no-fault divorce can be granted is a legally significant period that requires attention and, in many cases, a written agreement that structures the parties' rights and obligations during it. The Irving Law Firm advises Fairfax County clients on how to navigate the separation period effectively and what steps to take during it to protect their interests. The moment of separation in Virginia is the date on which the parties begin living separate and apart with the intent that the marriage is over. This date is legally significant because it is the starting point for the required separation period, it is often used as the date on which marital property stops accumulating for purposes of equitable distribution, and it may be relevant to claims about the reasons for the marriage's breakdown. Documenting the date of separation through contemporaneous records and communications is an important protective step. During the separation period, important questions arise about how the marital estate will be managed pending divorce. Whose income pays which bills? Who remains in the marital home? How are joint accounts handled? How are joint debts managed? A separation agreement that addresses these questions during the separation period gives both parties clarity and reduces the potential for disputes about financial conduct during the interim period.

The Irving Law Firm [specialist criminal defense attorney](#) - Fairfax Divorce Lawyers | 10505 Judicial Drive, Suite 300, Fairfax, VA 22030 | (571) 474-1990

The Irving Law Firm helps clients enter the separation period with a clear understanding of their legal position and a practical plan for navigating it. This early guidance often makes the subsequent divorce proceeding more straightforward and less expensive. Call The Irving Law Firm - Fairfax Divorce Lawyers [Criminal defense attorney](#) at (571) 474-1990 for separation guidance. Office at 10505 Judicial Drive, Suite 300, Fairfax, VA 22030.

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