

ADDENDUM TO PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

This addendum to the Participation Agreement dated _____ is necessary to address the agreed upon decision to include a mental health professional/coach as part of the collaborative team. The parties understand that the purpose of the mental health professional in this case is, among other things, to:

Help us present our “best selves” in the collaborative process;

Assist us to identify and prioritize concerns and goals for ourselves and our family now and in the future;

Work to reduce our level of stress and manage our emotions related to the divorce;

Help us develop effective communication and when there are children, co-parenting skills;

Support us in dealing with different levels of acceptance/feelings and attitudes about the divorce;

Assist us to develop a shared narrative for extended family, friends, and the children, if any;

Work collaboratively with each of us, our attorney’s and other involved professionals to anticipate problems and resolve problems as they arise;

Help our attorneys understand our individual emotional “hot spots,” fears and concerns

Help our attorneys understand the impact of the marital dynamic on the collaborative process in creating impasse, stalling and positional behaviors;

Help our attorneys and other team members resist being drawn into our dynamic as a couple or positions;

Make real time interventions during meetings to identify psychological roadblocks;

Facilitate focused and efficient pacing of meetings and process;

Assist us to stay focused on the present and the future;

Normalize our intense emotions so we can remain active and able to think creatively and without taking a position;

Assist us in generating and evaluating options in parenting and sometimes financial meetings;

Guide and enforce the structure of the collaborative process with us and assist the professional team in promoting the collaborative process;

Help us make the transition from an emotionally engaged couple to a business/problem solving relationship, and help us co-parent if applicable.

We further understand that the mental health professional/coach is not providing individual or couple's therapy, and will not serve as an therapist for either of us, or any member of our family before, during or after the process. When children are involved, we understand the mental health professional will work with both of us (or with the assistance of a child specialist) to develop child-focused parenting plans, which takes into consideration professional expertise in child development and the psychological impact of divorce on family members;

We agree to the above purposes and have separately executed a retainer agreement with our agreed upon mental health professional/coach, and agree to the terms contained therein.

Client

Date

Client

Date