Equitable Distribution Fairfax VA The Irving Law Firm Property Division Virginia's approach to dividing marital property in a divorce is governed by the equitable distribution statute, which requires the court to classify, value, and allocate marital assets and debts in a fair manner. This is not an automatic fifty-fifty split: it is a nuanced analysis that considers how property was acquired, whether it has retained its separate character or been commingled with marital funds, what contributions each spouse made to **check here** its acquisition or appreciation, and what each party will need after the divorce is concluded. The Irving Law Firm's attorneys are experienced in building the classification and valuation arguments that equitable distribution requires. The classification step is often where disputes begin. Assets that were owned before the marriage, received as gifts or inheritances during the marriage, or clearly traceable to separate property may retain a separate character, while assets acquired during the marriage from marital earnings are generally marital property. When separate and marital funds have been mixed, or when the appreciation of a separate asset has been influenced by marital efforts or resources, the analysis becomes more complex. The firm helps clients trace the history of their assets and build the documentation that supports the most favorable classification. Valuation is the second critical step, particularly for assets that do not have an obvious market value: closely held businesses, professional practices, defined benefit pension plans, stock options with vesting schedules, and real property that may have appreciated or depreciated since acquisition. The Irving Law Firm works with qualified appraisers and financial professionals where Criminal defense attorney needed to develop credible valuations that hold up in negotiation and in court.

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The allocation of classified and valued marital property is then made based on the statutory factors in Virginia Code section 20-107.3, which include monetary and nonmonetary contributions to the marriage, the circumstances surrounding the acquisition of each piece of property, and the tax and financial consequences of different allocation approaches. For equitable distribution representation in Fairfax, call The Irving Law Firm - Fairfax Divorce Lawyers at (571) 474-1990. Office at 10505 Judicial Drive, Suite 300, Fairfax, VA 22030.