



# FAMILY LAW

*Written by John Stocks  
Attorney at Law*

**Client:** What is the soonest I can get a divorce in Washington? If I can prove that my spouse had an affair on me while we were married- does that entitle me to more money or assets?

**Lawyer:** Regarding the fastest time in which you can get divorced, the shortest possible way takes 91 days to be officially divorced after you file the paperwork with the court, including filing a proposed Parenting Plan (if there are children of the marriage) and all the divorce paperwork is personally served on your spouse. Regarding marital misconduct, such as cheating, Washington is "no-fault" state, which means generally that misconduct by one spouse will not affect whether they can be divorced, or how the marital assets will be divided. Cheating does not affect property settlements in the divorce, nor does it affect whether the court will award someone spousal maintenance payments. However, sometimes expenditures made by one spouse on their paramour, to the extent community funds were used, may have to be reimbursed by the cheating spouse.

*Lawyer, John S. Stocks, answers questions posed to him by clients and/or by e-mails on the subject of FAMILY LAW.*

*Feel free to submit your family law question to John via e-mail. There is no charge for this and your question may appear in a future column. E-mail your question to: [jstocks@vansiclen.com](mailto:jstocks@vansiclen.com)*



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