

## ***Section 25 Criteria Explained***

Section 25 of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 expects that the Court should give consideration to the following matters when dealing with ancillary relief matters (ie matrimonial financial matters):

- (a) The income, earning capacity, property and other financial resources which each of the parties to the marriage has or is likely to have in the foreseeable future including, in the case of earning capacity, any increase in that capacity which it would in the opinion of the court be reasonable to expect a party to the marriage to take steps to acquire;
- (b) The financial needs, obligations and responsibilities which each of the parties to the marriage has or is likely to have in the foreseeable future
- (c) The standard of living enjoyed by the family before the breakdown of the marriage;
- (d) The age of each party to the marriage and the duration of the marriage;
- (e) Any physical or mental disability of either of the parties to the marriage;
- (f) The contributions which each of the parties has made or is likely in the foreseeable future to make to the welfare of the family, including any contribution by looking after the home or caring for the family;
- (g) The conduct of each of the parties, if that conduct is such that it would in the opinion of the court be inequitable to disregard it;
- (h) In the case of proceedings for divorce or nullity of marriage, the value to each of the parties to the marriage of any benefit which, by reason of the dissolution or annulment of the marriage, that party will lose the chance of acquiring.

***If you would like to discuss this in more detail as it relates to your situation, please give us a CALL NOW and ask to speak to one of our Family Law team.***

***Or REQUEST A CALL BACK at a time convenient to you.***

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