

K E L S E Y & T R A S K , P . C .

154 E. Central Street, Suite 302 B, Natick, Massachusetts 01760

Tel: 508.655.5980 Fax: 508.655.5981

Contact: Justin L. Kelsey, Esq.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tel: 508.655.5980

Email: jkelsey@kelseytrask.com

LAWYERS, JUDGES LOOK FOR FORMULA FOR ALIMONY ORDERS, DESPITE REFORM DEBATE

Natick Attorney's Online Calculator and iPhone "App" to Assist in Calculating Alimony Orders

There is a debate raging in the field of divorce law, and emotions and opinions on all sides run deep. For some, it's a four-letter-word. For others, it is fair and equitable compensation for a disparity in earnings during a marriage. Whatever you call it, "Alimony" is a hot topic for divorce lawyers right now. "The problem for many attorneys and divorcing couples is that it's a huge unknown. There is no legal formula to assist Judges in determining how much alimony, if any, should be awarded in a particular case", says Natick divorce attorney Justin L. Kelsey. "The judges have a number of factors that they will use, but unlike child support, there is no mathematical formula – and that means that you can get disparity from case to case". Attorneys at the Natick, MA firm of Kelsey & Trask, P.C. have attempted to bring some predictability to this area of the law by developing the "Divorce Spousal Support Calculator" as a way for attorneys, clients and the public to evaluate and compare what some judges, other states, and legal experts have proposed as various answers to the alimony formula question. Recently, Kelsey & Trask, P.C. brought their calculator to the iPhone, as well as the web and stand-alone application versions. This is one of the few legal apps for iPhone, and is used by lawyers and Judges alike. "I've been hearing from panel discussions and fellow attorneys that divorce lawyers and judges are using our calculator in their own cases", Kelsey said.

The "Divorce Spousal Support Calculator" is available for free download at Apple's iTunes store by searching for Divorce Spousal Support Calculator in the iTunes store. Kelsey & Trask, P.C. also hosts free web-based version compatible with BlackBerry and other smart phones on the firm's mobile website, <http://m.kelseytrask.com>, and a web-based version is provided at familylaw.kelseytrask.com. Attorney Kelsey reports that he is pleased with the calculator's popularity and usefulness, and hopes that it provides fuel for further debate and reform of the Commonwealth's alimony laws.

Kelsey & Trask, P.C. is a full-service law firm concentrating in bankruptcy, family law, and the legal needs of small and medium-sized businesses in Metro-West Massachusetts.

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If you would like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with Attorney Justin Kelsey, please call Justin Kelsey at 508.655.5980 or e-mail Mr. Kelsey at jkelsey@kelseytrask.com