

IN A DIVORCE, WHO GETS WHAT?

Massachusetts follows an *equitable distribution* statute. In order to assist the court in reaching its findings with respect to division of property or an award of alimony, you must be prepared to testify to the following facts:

- 1.** Length of the marriage
- 2.** Conduct of the parties during the marriage
- 3.** Age of the parties
- 4.** Health of the parties
- 5.** Station (status) of the parties
- 6.** Occupation of the parties
- 7.** Amount of income of the parties
- 8.** Sources of income of the parties
- 9.** Vocational skills of the parties
- 10.** Employability of the parties
- 11.** Estate of the parties
- 12.** Liabilities of the parties
- 13.** Needs of the parties
- 14.** Opportunity of the parties to acquire future capital assets
- 15.** Opportunities of the parties to acquire future income
- 16.** Contribution of the parties in their acquisition of their estate
- 17.** Contribution of the parties in their preservation of their estate
- 18.** Contribution of the parties in appreciation in value of their estate
- 19.** Contribution of the parties as a homemaker to the family unit
- 20.** Present and future needs of dependent children of the marriage
- 21.** Opportunity of the parties to acquire health insurance or other health coverage through an employer or organization