

## Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings

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§3–2003.

(a) A collaborative law process begins when the parties sign a collaborative law participation agreement.

(b) A tribunal may not order a party to participate in a collaborative law process over that party's objection.

(c) A collaborative law process is concluded by:

(1) A resolution of a collaborative matter as evidenced by a signed record;

(2) A resolution of a part of the collaborative matter, evidenced by a signed record, in which the parties agree that the remaining parts of the matter will not be resolved in the process; or

(3) A termination of the process.

(d) A collaborative law process terminates:

(1) When a party gives notice to other parties in a record that the process is ended;

(2) When a party:

(i) Begins a proceeding related to a collaborative matter without the agreement of all parties; or

(ii) In a pending proceeding related to the matter:

1. Initiates a pleading, a motion, an order to show cause, or a request for a conference with the tribunal;

2. Requests that the proceeding be put on the tribunal's calendar; or

3. Takes similar action requiring notice to be sent to the parties; or

(3) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (g) of this section, when a party discharges a collaborative lawyer or a collaborative lawyer withdraws from further representation of a party.

(e) A party's collaborative lawyer shall give prompt notice to all other parties in a record of a discharge or withdrawal.

(f) A party may terminate a collaborative law process with or without cause.

(g) Notwithstanding the discharge or withdrawal of a collaborative lawyer, a collaborative law process continues if, within 30 days after the date that the notice of discharge or withdrawal of a collaborative lawyer required by subsection (e) of this section is sent to the parties:

(1) The unrepresented party engages a successor collaborative lawyer; and

(2) In a signed record:

(i) The parties consent to continue the process by reaffirming the collaborative law participation agreement;

(ii) The agreement is amended to identify the successor collaborative lawyer; and

(iii) The successor collaborative lawyer confirms the lawyer's representation of a party in the collaborative process.

(h) A collaborative law process does not conclude if, with the consent of the parties, a party requests a tribunal to approve a resolution of the collaborative matter or any part of the collaborative matter as evidenced by a signed record.

(i) A collaborative law participation agreement may provide additional methods of concluding a collaborative law process.

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