

FAMILY LAW BLOG

What a Family Law Attorney Can and Can't Do

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In any divorce or other family law matter, when there are contested issues, having an attorney is often essential to being able to navigate through the court system. But having an attorney also has its limitations, since attorneys are restricted in what they can do, both by law, and in reality.

Attorneys cannot change the past, and we can't change who people are. We can't make someone be a good person or a good parent or a good co-parent. We can't force someone into a settlement and we can't make someone agree to something just because the other side thinks it's "fair". We can't change the relationship, how the parties got there, or where they wound up.

But what attorneys can do is to guide their clients and advise them about options. We can let clients know what is possible, and sometimes what is probable, if an issue were to be decided by a court. We can support our clients to help them understand what the law is, why it is that way, and how that may impact their family. And while we can't undo the past and how a client got into a particular relationship, we can work with clients to get them out of the relationship, and move on toward their future.

Being involved in any family law matter can be difficult; for any family law questions, please contact one of the family law attorneys at Sandberg Phoenix.