

Givens Law Group News

Welcome to our October 2011 Newsletter

Questions Someone May Ask You About Divorce

What is Alimony All About?

There are probably more myths in existence about alimony than any other factor in a divorce.

The concept of alimony was created many years ago at a time when the percentage of women who were either not working at all or were working in relatively low paying jobs was extremely high. The idea was that the husband in those divorces should be required to pay support to those women so that they would not end up on the welfare rolls and be forever supported by the taxpayers.

In a Florida divorce, alimony comes in four forms: Permanent periodic, Rehabilitative, Transitional and Durational.

For now, please understand that permanent periodic alimony is for long term marriages where one spouse is financially better off than the other. Rehabilitative alimony is to provide funds for a spouse to go from the present underemployed status to one of full employment at the highest potential. The purpose of transitional alimony is to give a needy spouse a one-time amount of money so that the spouse can go from married life to single life without suffering severe financial difficulties in the transition.

Durational alimony is a relatively new concept in Florida and allows for alimony to be paid for periods of time up to the length of the marriage in cases where there is not a long term marriage.

We will go into greater detail as to each of these four forms of alimony in future newsletters.

GIVENS LAW GROUP CELEBRATES ONE YEAR WITH HIGHEST NATIONAL RANKING

It is hard to believe that a whole year has gone by since *U.S. News and World*

Givens Law Group



[Read more about Stann Givens](#)

Report and **Best Lawyers** began to rank law firms and in their first rankings listed Givens Law Group with the highest ranking in the country for marital and family law firms. Givens Law Group has over 100 years combined legal experience and includes two attorneys board certified in the area of marital and family law. Firm president, Stann Givens is a former president of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, Florida Chapter. We are grateful to **U.S. News and World Report** and **Best Lawyers** and to the individual lawyers who participated in their poll.

THANKS!

We are all extremely grateful for the referrals we have received from former clients, fellow lawyers, mental health professionals and others in our community. There is nothing more professionally humbling than knowing that people are counting on us in their life-changing family law problems.

If you ever decide that one more piece of e-mail is too much, feel free to "unsubscribe" to this newsletter at any time. We look forward to working with you to make things easier for those people you know who are having family issues and we look forward to helping you in any way we can to make your life easier.

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