

Qualified Domestic Relations Order Overview

As you may know, a qualified domestic relations order (QDRO) is an order from the Court directing the administrator of a retirement plan to divide retirement assets pursuant to the divorce Judgment. A QDRO may also direct the plan administrator to pay child support or spousal support. There are many different varieties of QDRO's that are specific to each plan. If you are dividing military or government benefits, different court orders are required. The best approach when drafting a QDRO is to contact the plan administrator early in the process. Some plan administrators have sample QDRO documents for you to follow.

The following website is a publication from the U.S. government that more fully describes the complexities of a QDRO.

<http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/publications/qdros.html>