

Paperwork

The following list of documents may help you rebuild your life. If you have any questions about this list, contact your local domestic violence advocate.

Financial Records:

- Bank statements and cancelled checks
- Bank certificates of deposit
- Brokerage account statements
- Credit card accounts
- Loan documents and statements
- Mortgage applications and repayment records
- Pay stubs for the last six months for you and your spouse
- Tax filings and refunds
- Business financial statements
- Employee benefit records including stock options and bonuses
- Statements of all retirement accounts
- Royalty statements and advances
- Records of debts
- Records of business partnerships

Legal Documents:

- Birth certificates
- Marriage certificate
- Passports
- Social Security card
- Wills and trust documents
- Pre- and post-marital agreements
- Previous divorce settlements
- Records of any pending legal actions
- Records of inheritance
- Driver's license or state identification card
- Adoption papers for any adopted children
- Protection orders and temporary protection orders

Property Documents:

- Title documents
- Mortgage agreements and payment records
- Original purchase documents
- Appraisal documents
- List of collectibles, jewelry, artwork, other valuables (include photos)
- Vehicle registrations
- Insurance policies
- Deeds
- Pictures of the furnishings and personal items in your home
- Copies of any existing wills

Health Records:

- Medical and Dental records
- Health, life and disability insurance policies
- Medical expense records
- Records of prescriptions for drugs and eyeglasses
- List of doctors and their telephone numbers
- Living will

Expense Documents:

- Household bills (utilities, rent/mortgage)
- Education records
- Childcare contact information
- Children's after-school activities information
- Clothing receipts
- Leisure activities and vacation records
- Church and charitable donation records
- Laundry and cleaning expense records
- Household help records
- Transportation information

Although this is not an all encompassing list of every financial document that exists, it provides a thorough starting point for collecting the information and data you need to independently rebuild your financial future.