## High Profile Divorce Leads to Tricky Asset Division

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By now, most of the American public has heard of the divorce between Frank and Jamie McCourt. Frank McCourt is the owner of the L.A. Dodgers, but this complex divorce is putting his title as owner in jeopardy -- at least the tile of sole owner.

Jamie McCourt filed for divorce last Oct., a brave step considering the couple was married for 30 years and shared a luxurious life together. It seems, however, that the biggest risk of this <u>divorce</u> in the eyes of Jamie McCourt is that she might lose out on being a part of the Dodgers team.

According to sources, Jamie McCourt always wanted to be part of a professional baseball team when she was growing up, and the details of this divorce settlement will determine her status within the organization.

A special hearing is scheduled for Aug. 30 wherein the couple will argue over the division and ownership of the MLB team. Previous reports led the public to believe that the McCourts wanted to settle the Dodgers details outside of court in order to save themselves and their family from the hassle of court proceedings.

But with the court date quickly approaching, a recent discovery by Jamie McCourt's legal team has changed that decision. Last week, Jamie McCourt's divorce attorneys claimed that they found multiple copies of a 2004 property agreement that included ownership details of the Dodgers. They say that there were copies that listed Frank McCourt as sole owner, and there were also copies that listed Jamie McCourt as co-owner.

Jamie McCourt argues that she signed a 2004 property agreement, an agreement that named her as part owner of the team. Her attorneys believe that Frank McCourt is responsible for creating a fraudulent document with Jamie McCourt's signature by taking her name out as part owner after she already signed it.

Division of <u>marital property</u> can complicate most divorces, but this is certainly a unique case since most people do not own a famous baseball team. Since Aug. 30 is almost here, it looks like the judge will likely have to make the ultimate decision on who owns the team and how its value will be divided over time. All of the contracts allegedly found will probably play a large part in the judge's ruling.

## Resource

The Associated Press: Lawyers: Doc shows Jamie McCourt also owns Dodgers (8/19/2010)

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- Paternity / Establishment and establishing parental rights
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