

## Maricopa County's Parent Information Program

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Going through a divorce is never easy, but we all know, and hopefully understand, that divorce can be especially hard on children. The Superior Court in Maricopa County certainly realizes this and under Arizona law, the parent information class is mandatory in a divorce or custody action. Pursuant to ARS§ 25-351, *"The program is required for all parents involved in a legal separation, divorce, or paternity case in which the Court determines child support, visitation, or custody."* The Court may also order parties involved in other family law actions to attend the class.

The Parent Information Program class addresses a number of issues specifically geared towards children and divorce, including how to talk to your child about divorce, how to listen to your child, how to tell if your child is coping emotionally and where and when to get extra help and support for the children involved in a divorce. The program also has important information specifically for the parents including strategies for overcoming intense conflict, family court procedures, and the emotional and financial responsibilities of parents.

Court approved Parent Information Program classes are offered throughout Maricopa County (Ahwatukee, Avondale, Cave Creek, Chandler, Gilbert, Glendale, Mesa, Peoria, Phoenix, Queen Creek, Scottsdale, Sun City West, Surprise and Tempe). An online class is also available for those parents not able to attend a class in person. The fee for the Parenting Information Program class is \$50.00 per person and is paid to the community-based provider or the online provider. For more information about the Parent Information Program in Maricopa County and to get a specific listing of community-based providers, call (602) 506-1448.



Timothy Durkin joined JacksonWhite in 2010, and quickly established himself as a highly effective family law attorney with the perfect balance of assertiveness and compassion. Tim is often complimented for his dedication to professional service, as he works closely with his clients to keep them informed, listen to their needs and involve them in the decision making process.

Tim handles all types of family law, including divorces, paternity actions, child custody, child support, relocation and jurisdiction issues, adoptions, termination of parental rights and parental severance actions, title 8 guardianships, spousal maintenance cases, division of marital property and debts, pre-nuptial agreements, post decree modifications and enforcement of custody and divorce orders, mediation services, grandparent visitation cases, and domestic violence issues. He is licensed to practice law in all Arizona State Courts, as well as the United States District Court, District of Arizona, and serves clients throughout the Phoenix metro area. To read more about what former clients are saying about hiring Tim, or to set up a free consultation, please visit [www.jacksonwhitelaw.com/arizona-family-law](http://www.jacksonwhitelaw.com/arizona-family-law).

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