

Family Law Discovery Checklist

Discovery for Wage Earners:

- .. Tax Returns & W-2s
- .. Bank statements and registers
- .. Investment account statements
- .. Retirement plan statements
- .. Employee Stock Ownership Plan documents
- .. 1099s related to any freelancing or consulting income

Discovery for Business Owners:

- .. All of the above
- .. Financial statements and income tax returns for last 3 or 5 years
- .. Bank statements and registers
- .. General ledger detail (computer file or paper)
- .. Sales reports by month or quarter
- .. Sales tax returns for last 3 or 5 years
- .. When no financial statements are available: Consider using bank statements and credit card statements to reconstruct the financial statements
- .. Listing of fixed assets purchased in the last ___ months
- .. Details of certain expense accounts:
 - .. Consider what might be more of a “benefit” to the owner rather than a truly necessary business expense.
 - .. Consider which expense accounts might give clues about unreported income

Lifestyle Analysis:

- .. Real estate ownership
- .. Vehicles and toys
- .. Vacations
- .. Living expenses