**What is a motion to compel?**

A motion to compel is a motion filed by an attorney to request that the judge enter an order making a party do something.

**When are motions to compel filed?**

Motions to compel are most often filed when one party has not answered questions under oath or produced documents formally requested by the other party. However, motions to compel can be filed to force a parent to take a mandatory parenting class (Focus on Kids), to go to mediation, or to file disclosure statements (Property and Income Statements).

**Can I get attorney fees when my attorney has to file a motion to compel?**

We generally ask for attorney fees but do not generally receive them on motions to compel.

**Do I have to be in court for the motion to compel hearing?**

No. No one is required to testify on a motion to compel. Your attorney will ask for an order from the judge and the judge will most likely enter the order without much argument.

**What if we don’t file a motion to compel?**

If we don’t file a motion to compel then it may continue to delay your case because we are waiting on information from the other side, waiting on the other side to complete and file their disclosure statements, waiting on the other side to go to mediation, or waiting to get your case set for trial until the other side has done what they are supposed to do.

**Why can’t we get attorney fees?**

Awards of attorney fees are generally taken with the case. This means that most judges don’t award attorney fees unless they have to make a decision on a permanent basis. In general, our American court system is set up so that for minor infractions each party pays their own attorney fees which include motions to compel.