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THE WORD OF THE DAY IS DISCRETION
THE DANGERS OF SOCIAL MEDIA AND DIVORCE

by Melaney G. Hodge, Esq.

The growth of social media has led to unique and interesting complications in various areas of law. People post intimate details regarding their lives, providing readily available evidence for police, employers, and ex-spouses alike.

During a divorce, you are under a microscope where the tiniest perceived infraction can cost you. Facebook, MySpace, Twitter, etc. are a danger zone for trouble. Especially when children are involved, information gleaned from social media can drastically effect any custody designation or parenting plan. For example, pictures of vacations may demonstrate you have excess money, posts of locations show your exact whereabouts, pictures of drinking can indicate poor decision making.

With emotions running high, discretion is key. Obviously your life continues while you are going through a divorce, but that does not mean you need to broadcast your activities. Although you may think you have ironclad privacy settings, information will inevitably reach your spouse and/or their attorney. Avoid any chance of disclosure by not putting information out into the dangerous world of cyberspace!

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