

Knowledge is power.

Divorce: Understanding Common Threats

*“If you don't do exactly what I say,
you won't see a penny!”*

This is a power play designed to maintain control. The property will be divided, and support will be awarded according to the established guidelines.

*“I know a thing or two about you,
and if you don't cooperate, I'll make
sure the court finds out!”*

Whether this is a threat to expose an affair, therapy, alcohol consumption or any other personal matter, the children's best interests are foremost, and is unlikely to be a factor in those decisions if you are honest with your attorney.

*“I'll do everything in my power to avoid
paying you. Even if it means going to jail!”*

The court has the power to enforce child support obligations. While unusual, non-compliance can lead to serious consequences such as jail time, but most people pay before this happens.

*“You're trying to steal from me!
I won't let you!”*

Whether it's a pension, retirement savings, or other assets, you're entitled to your share and as your attorney, we work together to find a settlement.

“You'll never see the kids again!”

Kidnapping is illegal. If they try to hide your children to avoid parenting time, they risk losing their own parenting time and face other legal consequences.

*“If you try to make me pay that much,
I'll quit my job and let you deal with it!”*

Child support obligations continue regardless of employment status if the loss of employment is voluntary. Having a witness to this type of statement can strengthen your case when proving they quit their job to avoid child support.

*“Your attorney is incompetent and
trying to line their pockets. I'm not
going to deal with them!”*

This is a divide-and-conquer tactic. Our shared goal is to minimize legal expenses.

*“The judge will see things my way,
and you'll end up paying more
than you think!”*

Unless you can prove extraordinary expenses, the support amount is unlikely to change. Adjustments to support are typically only made in cases of extreme financial hardship.

*“If you don't agree to my terms,
I'll make sure we sell everything!”*

The court will only order the sale of an asset if it's necessary for the financial well-being of both parties and will typically explore other options like property division or spousal support.

Be heard. Be informed. Be guided.

While it's understandable to feel upset by threats, try to maintain your composure and focus on resolving the case. Avoid reacting impulsively or engaging in manipulative tactics. Remember, **it's illegal to record conversations without consent in Illinois**. Regularly consult with your attorney for guidance and to stay informed about your options. These types of threats are very common and there is no need to contact your attorney after each one. This will simply and needlessly increase your fees. Instead, document the threats by keeping a detailed journal and move on.



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