

# New DIVORCEmate

## software addresses family law risks

As the practice of family law grows increasingly complex, the number of claims in this area has experienced a corresponding growth. Errors in the drafting of separation agreements are a primary cause of many of these claims.

Family law practitioners now have a new software program to help navigate these tricky waters: DIVORCEmate Software Inc. has just released its latest software product, Precedents+. This plain English, easy-to-use software is based on the Law Society's 2002 CLE book, "Separation Agreement Annotated" (Epstein, Grant, Sadvari) which has been substantially updated. It allows family law professionals to create a better and more comprehensive separation agreement "draft" in less time. The "draft" agreement is then reviewed, completed and customized using the lawyer's experience and skills.

Precedents+ will appeal to both family law specialists and lawyers who handle the occasional family law case. One of its unique features are the extensive annotations which alert the users to risk management issues.

Using the software is straightforward; it contains features which make it easy for the lawyer to choose and add appropriate clauses, preview the agreement and merge information from the Forms+ client file. Gerald Sadvari, a specialist in family law and one of the authors of "Separation Agreement Annotated", has previewed the software, and says: "Precedents+ should be on the computer of anyone who practises family law."

"From a risk management perspective, this is an extremely useful tool," says Michelle Strom, president and CEO of LAWPRO, which contributed expertise and resources to the Precedents+ project. The software reflects LAWPRO's commitment to promoting the use of technology to help lawyers practise more efficiently and effectively, and deliver better service to their clients. "Many of the claims in family law arise from mistakes in drafting separation agreements. Precedents+ uses the expertise of senior family law practitioners to help lawyers draft better agreements, and in turn reduce their exposure to risk."

"The Precedents+ Separation Agreement project is a huge opportunity for DIVORCEmate to bring timely knowledge and information 'off the page' and into the lawyer's mind and electronic environment," says Mark Harris, president, DIVORCEmate Software Inc. "We believe that proactive software solutions, which guide and educate the user, complement LAWPRO's loss prevention initiatives for the family law profession."

Additional Precedents+ product and order information can be found at [www.divorcemate.com](http://www.divorcemate.com).

