

# The Law Offices of Anne Schmidt, LLC

*Pre-approval*



## 1. Why We Send the Draft

- Plans can be fussy! They can reject your Order for the slightest thing.
- For example, the Plan name could be written as "The ABC 401(k)," but the Plan administrator could reject your order because they want it to say "The ABC Inc. 401(k)."
- Seems trivial right? But, not adhering to the requested revision could lead to denial of the final order.

## 2. Save Time and Money

- Additionally, sending your draft for pre-approval prevents delay in the processing of the final QDRO and the assignment of your benefits.
- This is because we make sure that the Order will be accepted by the Plan saving time and money and ensuring that your benefits can be assigned as detailed in your agreement.



## 3. Here's the Annoying Part

- Plans can take a while to pre-approve your draft.
- While most Plans get back to us within 30 days, some Plan Administrators, such as Vanguard, are taking up to 6 months to respond.

## 4. At 30 Days, YOU can help!

- We will usually call the Plan to inquire about the status of the draft we sent.
- Unfortunately most of the time, they will not speak with us without the Participant on the phone. We may need your help if your Plan refuses to speak with us.
- For faster results, you can call the Plan! If you would like us on the phone with you once you have a representative on the line, please reach out to us.

