

How are Joint Legal Custody and Sole Legal Custody Arrangements Determined in Mesa, Arizona?

By: Timothy Durkin, Attorney at Law
JacksonWhite, P.C.

Arizona Courts will make a custody determination when parties to a divorce have kids together. Since [legal custody in Arizona](#) involved decision making authority, a parent with legal custody is allowed to make important decisions relating to his or her children. These decisions may involve education, religion and non-emergency medical care. In Arizona, the most common type of legal custody is joint custody. In an [Arizona joint custody arrangement](#), both parents are authorized to share in the decision-making for their children. However, joint legal custody does not necessarily provide parents with equal parenting time. While joint custody is often the best arrangement for a child, this does not always hold true.

If a parent is unfit to parent or simply refuses to co-parent, courts may award sole legal custody to the other parent. In an Arizona sole legal custody arrangement, only one parent is given the absolute authority to make important decisions for the child. In instances where one parent is seeking sole legal custody, it can be advantageous to involve an Arizona child custody attorney who can protect the child's best interests



Timothy Durkin joined JacksonWhite in 2010, and quickly established himself as a highly effective family law attorney with the perfect balance of assertiveness and compassion. Tim is often complimented for his dedication to professional service, as he works closely with his clients to keep them informed, listen to their needs and involve them in the decision making process.

Tim handles all types of family law, including divorces, paternity actions, child custody, child support, relocation and jurisdiction issues, adoptions, termination of parental rights and parental severance actions, title 8 guardianships, spousal maintenance cases, division of marital property and debts, pre-nuptial agreements, post decree modifications and enforcement of custody and divorce orders, mediation services, grandparent visitation cases, and domestic violence issues. He is licensed to practice law in all Arizona State Courts, as well as the United States District Court, District of Arizona, and serves clients throughout the Phoenix metro area. To read more about what former clients are saying about hiring Tim, or to set up a free consultation, please visit www.jacksonwhitelaw.com/arizona-family-law.

Founded in 1983, JacksonWhite P.C. offers a full -range of services to assist individuals, families and businesses with their legal needs. Since its inception, the Mesa firm has grown steadily to include 22 highly experienced attorneys and over 40 paralegals, legal assistants and staff. At this size, the firm is large enough to offer the efficiency and technical expertise of larger firms, yet small enough to provide clients with individualized, personalized attention. JacksonWhite has multiple offices around the state of Arizona including a Mesa, Casa Grande and Peoria locations. For more information on a specific attorney or area of practice, please visit www.jacksonwhitelaw.com, or www.jacksonwhitelaw.com/arizona-family-law.
