



Family Law

CALL US - BEFORE
YOUR EX DOES!



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LAWYER

Q

My wife wants money for back to school supplies and clothes. She says I have to pay because they are extraordinary expenses. I already pay child support! Do I have to pay this too?

A

The answer is that, if you can't afford it, and there is no Court Order or completed Separation Agreement which specifies that you pay for these items, you don't have to.

Back to school supplies and clothes, much like outerwear (boots, snow suits, etc.) are often spelled out in Court Orders or Separation Agreements as specific extraordinary expenses (or section 7 expenses) to which each parent contributes either 50/ 50, or in proportion to their relative incomes after child-support is paid.

If you have a Court Order or Separation Agreement, and these

items are not spelled out as extraordinary expenses, then you have the right to refuse to pay, arguing that you are already paying for these in your child support payments.

At the end of the day, these are your children and you want them to be properly equipped for school. Perhaps you can negotiate a contribution or split of the agreed-upon items and cost, so your children don't go without.

If you prefer, a family lawyer can negotiate on your behalf.

Your friends at Shank Law



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