

## **Darrell M. Harding Attorney at Law, PLC**

With more than twenty years of experience we know that not every case is the same and provide each case with the personalized individual attention it deserves. Our firm is committed to providing our clients with skillful and professional representation. We provide our clients personalized attention and service. Our firm understands that family issues involving divorce and/or children can be emotionally and physically stressful. We are here to help guide you through the legal system and will take you through the process one step at a time.



**Darrell M. Harding** graduated with honors with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Brigham Young University in 1984. He also graduated at the top of his class with his Juris Doctor Degree from J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, in 1988. He served as Legal and Political Chairman over the Civil Law Division from 1987-1988, Negotiator Forum Vice President in 1988 and served on the Law Review. For over 23 years he has focused exclusively on family law to best serve individuals like you.

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# CUSTODY

## **DID YOU KNOW:**

**Judge's have specific factors they are required to consider whenever they decide custody.**

**Read on to better  
analyze your case.**



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## Virginia Code § 20-124.3- Factors:

<p><b>In determining best interests of a child for purposes of determining custody or visitation arrangements, the court shall consider the following:</b></p>	<p><b>List what facts help or hurt your case for each factor:</b></p>
<p>1. The age and physical and mental condition of the child, giving due consideration to the child's changing developmental needs;</p>	
<p>2. The age and physical and mental condition of each parent;</p>	
<p>3. The relationship existing between each parent and each child, giving due consideration to the positive involvement with the child's life, the ability to accurately assess and meet the emotional, intellectual and physical needs of the child;</p>	
<p>4. The needs of the child, giving due consideration to other important relationships of the child, including but not limited to siblings, peers and extended family members;</p>	
<p>5. The role which each parent has played and will play in the future, in the upbringing and care of the child;</p>	
<p>6. The propensity of each parent to actively support the child's contact and relationship with the other parent, including whether a parent has unreasonably denied the other parent access to or visitation with the child;</p>	
<p>7. The relative willingness and demonstrated ability of each parent to maintain a close and continuing relationship with the child, and the ability of each parent to cooperate in and resolve disputes regarding matters affecting the child;</p>	
<p>8. The reasonable preference of the child, if the court deems the child to be of reasonable intelligence, understanding, age and experience to express such a preference;</p>	
<p>9. Any history of family abuse as that term is defined in § 16.1-228; and</p>	
<p>10. Such other factors as the court deems necessary and proper to the determination.</p>	