

## **Mandatory COPE Class**

The Nevada Legislature has mandated that litigants in a divorce proceeding with minor children attend a COPE Class before the conclusion of their case. This class is designed to educate parents in helping children cope with the stresses of divorce. There are two ways to meet this mandatory requirement: (1) attend a COPE Class prior to the conclusion of your litigation or (2) obtain a waiver of attendance.

The COPE Class is generally intended to teach parents about:

- How different children of different ages react to their parents no longer being together.
- Parenting skills that will help children whose parents are no longer together.
- Pitfalls to avoid.

There is no order or referral to the COPE class. You are expected to register, pay the \$40.00 fee, attend the class, and provide your attorney with your Certificate of COPE Class Completion. There are currently two COPE Class providers, each of which has multiple class locations and class times. You may call the providers or visit their website for class locations and times:

Palo Verde Child & Family Services, Inc.  
222 S. Rainbow Blvd., Suite 210  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89145  
Phone: (702) 243-4357  
[www.paloverdechild.org](http://www.paloverdechild.org)

Family Solutions  
840 S. Rancho Drive,  
Suite 4-175  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106  
Phone: (702) 395-8417  
[www.familysolutionslv.org](http://www.familysolutionslv.org)

You may attend the class alone or with another person. It is not necessary that you attend the same class as the other parent. You may attend the class with whomever you choose, such as a supportive friend, sibling, parent or adult daughter or son. Usually a person who is attending to simply be of support to you need not pay a fee for attending with you.

Since the COPE class is mandatory, failure to complete the class prior to the finalization of your case may result in custody or visitation being suspended until the completion of the class. Some judges will not sign the final order in your matter without proof of completing the class. Please complete the class as soon as practical and give the certificate of Cope class completion to your attorney.