

# Worsham Law Firm, P.A.

"Put Aggressive Representation and Experience on Your Side"

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## "Alimony in Arkansas"



Despite what many think, "alimony" is alive and well in Arkansas. By statute, unless the court orders otherwise, alimony will continue until the remarriage or death of the recipient party.

The "unless" part of this statute has been invoked more and more by the courts over the last decade, such that you frequently see an award of alimony for a limited period of time. This limited award is often loosely referred to as "rehabilitative alimony".

There are many factors that the court considers in determining whether an award is warranted, e.g., length of marriage, disparity in earnings, educational difference, employment status, etc.

Once the court determines that an award is appropriate, they then engage in a "needs versus means" analysis.

Obviously, the longer the marriage and the greater the income disparity, the better the case for alimony. By

contrast, courts will often not award any alimony in a very short marriage where both parties work, even where there is a large income disparity.

A key point to note is that an award of alimony by a court can be modified by the court should there be a material change in circumstances of either party. However, if the parties agree to an order on payment of alimony, the amount and term of the alimony is contractually non-modifiable.

Legal "Lunacy": It May be Loony, but it's the LAW!!

### Johnson Grass (crime)

According to Arkansas Code 2-16-503(a), "Any landowner or any person having control of any land in a Johnson grass control and eradication district who fails or refuses to control or eradicate Johnson grass on his lands shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."

In other words, if you live in such a district, your Johnson grass could land you in jail!

### Is the Horse Scared?

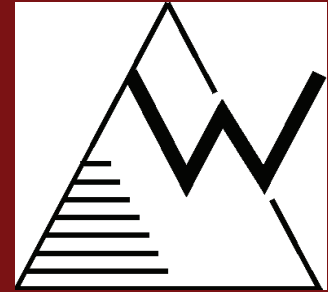
If you are driving down any road, street or highway in Arkansas and see a horse on the road, you

are required to come to a full stop until the horse has passed if it appears that the horse is *about to become frightened*. Arkansas Code 27-51-1407.

Good luck in making that determination!

### ARK. STATE SYMBOLS, ETC.

- ▶ Beverage: Milk
- ▶ Fruit & Vegetable: Tomato
- ▶ Tree: Pine
- ▶ Folk Dance: Square Dance
- ▶ Bird: Mockingbird
- ▶ Mammal: White Tailed Deer
- ▶ Musical Instrument: Fiddle
- ▶ Insect: Honeybee



### Help Us Help You

We will be in a better position to provide you with effective legal service if you:

- ▶ Make sure that we know all of the facts pertinent to your case - the good and the bad. Surprises at trial hurt you!
- ▶ If we are representing you in a domestic matter, make sure to change any e-mail passwords and other "keys" to your confidential information that the other party may possess.

### APPEALS

If you have an unfavorable decision from any Arkansas District or Circuit Court, you can file an appeal of that decision to the appropriate appellate court.

Obviously, there has to be a valid legal basis for an appeal. Having worked on appellate cases for over 17 years, we are more than able to evaluate your situation.

NOTE: You only have 30 days from entry of the final order to file your appeal.



"Bad news Timmy. The DNA blood sample found on the broken cookie jar proves you're guilty!"

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