**Ways to Use Alimony Comparison Workbook**

This Workbook/spreadsheet can be used to compare how different figures affect the amount of alimony and other factors for each of the states, as well as the guidelines from the ALI and the AAML.

If you wish to return the original window to its original configuration, press X and don’t save.

For summary information about each Jurisdiction, click on the Jurisdiction in that column, or click on the icon for that Jurisdiction at the bottom of the window. To return to the original window, click on the link for “Alimony Overview” at the bottom of the window.

Here are some explanations/suggestions for use of the Workbook:

**Columns beginning with Jurisdiction**: These columns will change automatically depending on what information is inserted in the yellow sections.

**Jurisdiction**: states and/or organizations whose guidelines were discussed in the documents first emailed to you in May.

**Duration**: years of alimony payments. Depending on what is inserted in the yellow section, “Duration of Marriage”, the number in this pink column will change automatically.

 (to change the information in any yellow section, click on the box, change the number and then click “enter”)

**Alimony**: yearly amount of alimony depending on the amount of income entered. Inserting different numbers in the yellow section “income” will automatically change the number in this purple section for each jurisdiction.

 For California and Massachusetts, due to their guidelines, the yellow box “net income” would need to be changed.

**Deductions**: California and Massachusetts use “net income”.

**Columns beginning with Family Data**:

 **Income, Net Income**: data entered into these columns, as well as in “duration”, will change the figures in the relevant columns under **Stats**.

 **Duration**: duration of marriage

**Column titled Stats**:

 This column shows what is the maximum, average, etc. for all of the Jurisdictions, depending on what gross or net income and duration of marriage you enter.

 If the income figures are changed, all the figures in this column will change. If only the duration is changed, only the “average” box will change.

**Columns for NC Suggestions**: These columns were chosen by Jeremy using aspects of the ALI formula. Click on ALI to see the formula.

 **Percentages**: percent of income differential or difference between the two incomes. A change in the percentage will change the amount of yearly alimony.

 **Duration Factor**: based on the formula used in ALI. Jeremy has set the factor at .4 for this example.

 **Minimum Duration**: how long the parties have to be married to meet the minimum threshold requirements in the ALI formula and for alimony to be awarded.

 **Minimum Difference**: threshold difference in income to be eligible for alimony.