

For small claims we offer to:

- Consider each case individually on its suitability for pre-filing mediation.
- If we determine the case is suitable for the Program, we will contact the “defendant”.
- We will write to the “plaintiff” if we are unable to mediate the case for any reason, ending our involvement.
- If the “defendant” responds and shows a willingness to mediate promptly, we will use our best efforts to mediate the matter.
- Should the parties reach an understanding, we will prepare a simple agreement detailing the resolution.
- The agreement is a binding contract between the parties, enforceable in a court of law.
- If other recourse is appropriate, we will suggest possible alternatives.

Other mediation services available:

Many cases are suitable for mediation: such as matrimonial matters, home owners disputes, business matters. industrial disputes, etc.

We can help you find a mediator with the appropriate experience to assist you in resolving the conflict. Including international.

Mediators outside this Program will charge a fee for their services.

This program receives no public funding



**Pre filing mediation program
of Palm Beach County**

Fax: 561 - 491 - 6893
E-mail:
Intake@CommunityMediation.us

MAILING ADDRESS :
Pre Filing Mediation,
P.O. Box 534
West Palm Beach,
Florida 33402

Palm Beach County Pre-filing Mediation program

Small claims pro-bono service offered
by certified mediators.

Terms and conditions apply and subject
to change.

...please check our website for the
latest information...

Resolving conflicts before using the Court

Run by the
Community Mediation Network Inc.
Operating within the 15th Judicial Circuit,
(This is not a Court administered program)
With volunteer mediators.

WWW.CommunityMediation.us

Fax: 561 - 491 - 6893

Intake@CommunityMediation.us

Voicemail: 561—729—5111

Where does mediation occur?

Mediation may be by email, phone, or in person depending on the case and the mediator.

How mediation works:

In mediation, a neutral, third party helps those in conflict define issues, explore solutions and reach practical, workable, and mutually satisfactory agreements.

Mediation seeks to restore communications, prevent conflicts from escalating, and relieve everyone involved from the time and expense of going to court.

Confidentiality:

All discussions regarding the mediation, as well as statements made during mediation, will be held in confidence by the parties and the mediator.

No participant in mediation may reveal or record anything said during mediation to others including the Judge, unless required or permitted by law.

How to start

Go to our web site

www.CommunityMediation.us

Or the Courthouse self help desk.

Fill in the form and email,

or fax it to us at:

561 - 491 - 6983.

Contact information:

Provide a home address for an individual you want us to contact. Or business address for a corporation.

Let us know the best times to contact you and the other person, and the phone number or email address to use.

How long does it take:

It takes an average of about 3 weeks from the time we receive your information to the conclusion of the case. We will always write to you with the outcome.

COST

For cases of less than \$5,000 the mediators services are free, but you will be required to contribute a nominal amount of \$30 to help cover the cost of the program.

Funded from private contributions.

Send suggestions or complaints to:
Director@CommunityMediation.us

Why Mediate?

- Every lawsuit filed in Florida must go to mediation before going to trial.
 - Over 75% of all cases referred to mediation are settled before trial.
 - Mutual agreements are more likely to be followed than those ordered by a Court.
 - It is better to negotiate an outcome than to have a third party such as a Judge decide who "wins" and who "loses".
- In a mediation the parties decide the outcome through negotiation. A trial provides no such opportunity.

Do I have to mediate?

No. Not before a lawsuit is filed, unless ordered to do so by a competent authority, or by contractual obligation.

Yes. Once a lawsuit is filed, every case must go to mediation before trial.

Pre Filing Mediation,

Fax: 561 - 491 - 6893

E-mail:

Intake@CommunityMediation.us

www.CommunityMediation.us