

Mediation.

Mediation is a process which allows individuals to voluntarily resolve disputes in a confidential out-of-court procedure

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 prevent conflicts from escalating, saving everyone involved the time and expense of going to court.

Mediation is a process which can help ALL parties involved:

Get past their anger, frustration, guilt, or "desire to punish"

Clarify their underlying, bottom-line goals

See the "other's" feelings, viewpoints, and goals

Cooperatively build a lasting, WIN-WIN voluntary solution

Create an atmosphere of on-going, cooperation and efficiency

All mediations are handled promptly and confidentially

Where & When Are Mediations Held?

The mediation sessions are held in out-of-court settings, such as jury rooms, conference rooms, libraries, or other public meeting rooms. Every effort is made to schedule sessions at the convenience of everyone involved.

Who Are the Mediators?

Mediators are community volunteers who have completed specialized training and are certified by the Administrative Director of the Courts. Mediators assist both parties in negotiating and solving their own problems.



Online Intake Form

www.oscn.net

Link: Early Settlement Mediation
Select "Forms"

For faster service, directly contact the regional program that serves the county you live in listed on the back of this brochure.

Dispute Resolution Act

In 1986, the Supreme Court of Oklahoma adopted the rules and procedures for the Dispute Resolution Act, 12 O.S. 1801 et seq., providing guidelines for the establishment of dispute resolution centers. The purpose of the

Dispute Resolution Act is:

"to provide to all citizens of this state convenient access to dispute resolution proceedings which are fair, effective, inexpensive, and expeditious."

Early Settlement Centers operate under the authority of the Oklahoma Dispute Resolution Act. The centers provide **low-cost** mediation services to all who wish to negotiate interpersonal matters.

To initiate mediation, each party must pay a \$5 processing charge as required by Oklahoma statute, except in cases ordered by the court. Cases resolved by mediation may involve money, property, business transactions, personal relationships, assault, harassment, animal disturbances, neighborhood disturbances, or other matters. The disputes may be with mates, ex-mates, other family members, neighbors, landlords or tenants, consumers or merchants.