# Using Mediation When Involved in Business or Family Dispute



#### SELECT MEDIATION, LLC

Mediators Certified in Appellate, Circuit Civil, Family and County Mediation

Phone: (321) 269-600 Fax: (321) 247-4795 Office Locations in Every County in the State of Florida

# WELCOME



We would like to thank you for considering our firm in assisting you with your mediation needs. Three objectives at Select Mediation, LLC, are (1) to keep the mediation process stress free, (2) assist the parties in exploring all resolution possibilities, and (3) keep mediation cost effective for the parties.

We are dedicated to helping families and businesses navigate the rough and uncertain waters of an unresolved dispute.

The Mediators at Select Mediation, LLC understand how important each dispute is to the parties; that is a given. Our Mediators assist the parties in expanding their understanding about the value of alternatives to a final judicial resolution of the matter, by exploring the financial expense, emotional strain, and

the opportunity to control the resolution. The parties, while developing their appreciation of alternatives to a final judicial resolution of the matter, often negotiate a resolution to their dispute.

Mediation is a great alternative to litigation or trial. Some of the benefits are outlined in our e-book, which we hope you read.

The staff at Select Mediation, LLC will assist you with every process involved in mediation, from coordinating, preparing the Notices, and filing the Notices with the Clerk (in litigated cases).

We are honored and pleased to share our experience and skills as you explore ways to solve a problem or end a dispute.

We welcome all inquiries and we are happy to answer any questions you may have regarding mediation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Mediators at Select Mediation, LLC

# Using Mediation When Involved In

# A BUSINESS OR FAMILY DISPUTE



Involvement in a business or family legal dispute can be one of the most stressful experiences for a person to endure. In addition to the expense and time consuming nature of settling a dispute in the courtroom, the process can also tear apart important relationships and damage reputations. By the time a trial has ended and a resolution is reached, both parties might wish they had never taken legal action. This is especially true when the result is an unsatisfying outcome for both sides.

There is a better option. Mediation allows disputing parties involved in business and family disputes to avoid the expense and hassle of litigation. For many, choosing mediation to resolve their legal issue is the smartest decision they ever make in their professional or personal lives.

What are five of the most important benefits of using mediation?

#### 1. Flexibility

Right from the start, mediation offers flexibility not provided by the court system. Mediation conferences can be settled in as little as a few weeks. This means you can resolve your issue quickly and get back to other important aspects of your life.

The flexibility continues throughout the process. Resolutions possible in mediation are often not an option in litigation. The process of mediation allows disputing parties to explore all possible solutions and design an outcome that is ideal for everyone involved. There are no losers in mediation. As a matter of fact, mediation is not even considered a success unless both sides agree to the resolution.

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#### 2. Cost

One of the most common reasons people choose mediation is because it saves them money. Since the process is fast and requires disputing parties to handle a great deal of the work, there is no need to worry about expensive attorney or court fees. Things that are a part of the litigation process are not needed when a dispute is mediated. There is no long discovery process and no need to file motions and extend the amount of time it takes to resolve a matter. The efficiency of the mediation process ensures costs stay under control.



#### 3. Confidentiality

Mediation is a confidential process. This can be especially important when it comes to resolving family and business issues.

Nobody wants their personal, family business aired in public. Participants in mediation can speak openly and honestly about their most personal issues without fear the general public will have access to the information. Mediation conferences are also private, so no one from the general public is permitted to sit in and witness the proceedings, as they might when a dispute is settled in the courtroom.

Privacy and confidentiality are also important when resolving business disputes. Despite the issues at hand, the reputations of businesses can be damaged during court proceedings. When the parties have the dispute settled in the courtroom, there is a need to worry about media coverage, and that the public has access to everything said during the proceedings. This gives little control to a business to protect its reputation or any proprietary information that might be discussed during the proceedings.

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Mediation is confidential and nothing discussed is available to the public. This allows everyone to speak openly and honestly, and to be open to negotiating in the most effective way possible. The side issues that interfere during litigation are not a problem when a business dispute is mediated.

#### 4. Personalized

Mediation is personalized and allows everyone involved to address the emotional aspects of a dispute, as well as the legal ones. This can be especially important when resolving family disputes that are often based in ongoing emotional issues.

Mediators are there to facilitate communication and keep discussions focused on finding a resolution. They do their best to understand the various issues at play and to address those issues in the best way possible. If there are hard feelings or resentment going into negotiations, there is a lower likelihood the current dispute will be resolved. Mediators have the ability to address these emotional concerns so everyone feels comfortable and confident negotiating and accepting the most reasonable solution.

It is also possible to create a personalized solution in mediation that might not be an option when litigating a dispute. There are fewer rules to follow and the process is informal. Discussion and communication are at the heart of a successful mediation and the best mediators guide parties toward a resolution that works for everyone involved, even if it is not the most conventional or practical solution.

#### 5. Control of Outcome

Finally, and perhaps the benefit that makes mediation so successful, is the control disputing parties maintain over the outcome. Instead of turning the fate of all involved over to a judge or jury, disputing parties maintain control and determine when and if an issue is resolved. There are no losers in mediation — only two or more sides that agree on how to resolve an issue. Compromise is necessary, but since everyone is asked to compromise and is allowed to refuse



a potential outcome, there is a greater chance everyone will abide by the compromise in the long run.

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Instead of abiding by a court-ordered decision, parties design a resolution that works for them and is accepted by everyone involved.

If you are involved in a business or family dispute and you believe mediation would be an effective way to resolve the issue, Select Mediation, LLC can help. With their mediators having extensive experience in commercial litigation, contracts, general liability, family law, personal injury, foreclosure, and bankruptcy and appellate mediation.

To learn more or to schedule a consultation, contact Select Mediation, LLC at 321.269.6900 or by email at info@selectmediation.net.

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