

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
COUNTY DEPARTMENT, DOMESTIC RELATIONS DIVISION

Form with fields for Petitioner, Respondent, No., and Calendar.

ORDER OF REFERRAL TO PRIVATE MEDIATION

THIS CAUSE coming before the Court pursuant to the Domestic Relations Division Mediation Program Rule 13.4(e) for referral to mediation:

THE COURT HEREBY ORDERS:

- 1. Type of case: Divorce, Custody, Paternity, Child Support, Post-judgment, Guardianship, Other.
2. Issues to be mediated: Custody, Removal, Financial, Maintenance, Visitation/Parenting time, Residential Parent, Financial (non-child related), Other.
3. The parties are required to attend the mediation session unless excused by the mediator.
4. (Select one) 4360 By agreement of the parties; 4361 By order of the Court: the mediator named below is appointed to conduct the mediation in this case: (mediator): (telephone): (address):
5. (Select all that apply) The mediator shall be compensated by the parties, without prejudice to reallocation, as follows: % by the Petitioner and % by the Respondent; The mediator is appointed to serve at the following charge: \$ / per hour. The mediator is appointed to serve at the following reduced charge that is less than the mediator's usual rate: \$ /per hour. 4362 The mediator is appointed to serve Pro Bono since the parties qualify under local rules for such services.
6. (Select one) Discovery on financial issues is stayed is not stayed while the case is being mediated.
7. (Select one) Discovery on custody, visitation/parenting time, or removal issues is 9103 stayed 5103 is not stayed while the case is being mediated.
8. The mediator may require that each party submit, and serve on the opposing party, a mediation summary that provides, where relevant, (a) the facts and circumstances of the case (b) the issues in dispute (c) copies of the party's "Disclosure Statement," "Proof of Income," and "Custody Disclosure Statement" when applicable as provided by Circuit Court Rules 13.3.1, 13.3.2, and 13.3.3. Such Submissions shall be received by the mediator and the opposing party no less than three (3) business days before the mediation.
9. The parties shall contact the mediator within seven (7) business days to schedule the first mediation session. The first mediation session shall be held within thirty-five (35) days after entry of this Order unless good cause exists for scheduling a later date.
10. 4363 Within seven (7) days of the completion of mediation, the mediator shall submit a Mediation Report with the Office of the Presiding Judge of the Domestic Relations Division.

11. 4215 Within seven (7) days of the completion of mediation, or no later than the mediation status date, each party shall submit in a sealed envelope an Evaluation for Parties form with their Judge or the Office of the Presiding, Judge of the Domestic Relations Division.

12. Referring Judge and Identification of the Children, Parties, and Attorneys

(a) Referring Judge: _____ Telephone: (312) 603-3037
Email: DomesticRelationsMediation@cookcountyil.gov Fascimile: (312) 603-0070

(b) Identification of Children
(To be completed only if any child-related issues, including child support, are being mediated.)

Table with 3 columns: Child(ren)'s Full Name(s), Age(s), Residential Address(s). Multiple rows for data entry.

(c) Identification of Parties and Attorneys

Petitioner

Name: _____
*Address: _____
City/State/Zip Code: _____
*Telephone (H): _____
*Telephone (W): _____

Petitioner's Attorney

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip Code: _____
Telephone: _____
Facsimile: _____

Respondent

Name: _____
*Address: _____
City/State/Zip Code: _____
*Telephone (H): _____
*Telephone (W): _____

Respondent's Attorney

Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip Code: _____
Telephone: _____
Facsimile: _____

(*If a party does not wish to disclose a telephone number or address, that party shall designate alternative contact information for the purpose of the mediator contacting them.)

13. 4407 This cause is set for mediation status on _____, _____ at _____ a.m./p.m.

Atty. No.: _____
Name: _____
Attorney for: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip Code: _____
Telephone: _____
Fax: _____

ENTERED:

Dated: _____, _____
Judge Judge's No.

MEDIATION INFORMATION SHEET

The court has ordered that you participate in mediation of outstanding issues in your case. The following is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice or legal authority. Please refer to Cook County Circuit Court Rule 13.4(e) for the complete rules related to mediation in the Domestic Relations Division of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

The Mediator

The mediator is a neutral facilitator who will help you and the other party resolve issues in your case. While one of the purposes of mediation is to help the parties arrive at a settlement, the mediator cannot require that the parties reach settlement.

It is important to remember that the mediator is not acting as an attorney for you or the other party, does not represent you or the other party, and is not providing legal advice to you or the other party. The mediator may however provide information about family law statutes and the legal process.

The Process

Upon entry of an order for mediation, you must contact the mediator within seven (7) days to schedule the first mediation session. You must attend the mediation session(s). The court may impose sanctions upon any party who does not attend mediation or who in some other way, violates the terms of the mediation referral court order or any other mediation related court order.

An attorney or other individual may accompany you to and participate in the mediation. You have a right to consult with your attorney at any time during the mediation process. The mediator may speak to any party or any party's attorney without the other party or the other party's attorney being present. You may not bring a minor child to mediation unless both parties and the mediator agree.

At any time, you may ask the court (by filing a motion) to terminate the mediation or modify the issues to be mediated. The mediator may terminate the mediation at any time if there is an impediment to mediation. An impediment occurs when there is a circumstance which may render mediation inappropriate or unreasonably interfere with the mediation process. Impediments may include past or present family violence or abuse, mental or cognitive impairment, alcohol abuse, or chemical dependency.

If financial issues are being mediated, you and the other party must willfully disclose all financial information, financial statements, income tax returns, valuations of property, and other relevant information requested by the mediator. You cannot misrepresent financial information.

Confidentiality

In order to promote communication among you, the other party, counsel and the mediator and to facilitate settlement of the dispute, the mediation process is confidential. All statements made during the course of the mediation are privileged settlement discussions and are not admissible for any purpose with some exceptions. Examples of statements that may be disclosed without either party's express permission include statements that lead a mediator to believe that abuse or neglect of a child has occurred and statements that lead a mediator to believe there is a need to disclose information in order to prevent death or serious bodily harm.

Fees

Mediation through Family Mediation Services is free of charge. Mediation through mediators other than Family Mediation Services will vary depending on the rates of the mediator providing the mediation. The court may enter an order specifying who will pay the fees.