

# County Mediation Matters

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***The answer to having a better life is not about getting a better life, it's just about changing how we see the one we have right now.***

*Angela Kyodo Williams  
Founder of the Urban Peace Project*

## On-Line CME Opportunities

Now you can earn CME's from the comfort of your computer chair! And it's FREE!! Check out the web site [www.mediationworks.com](http://www.mediationworks.com) for a number of interesting training and education opportunities. Among these are monthly on-line conferences hosted by the Mediation Training Institute. The one-hour conferences are free and non-commercial. They are held monthly at a variety of days and times in order to accommodate a range of schedules. To sign up for e-mail notification of future conferences go to:

[www.mediationworks.com/medcert2/medconf.htm](http://www.mediationworks.com/medcert2/medconf.htm) .

## Conference Lodging

It's not too early to start thinking about your hotel reservations for the conference in Orlando in October. The conference will be held at Disney's Coronado Springs Resort. If you wish to stay on-site, the rate is \$145 per night plus tax. For reservations, call 407-939-1020.

The DRC has also negotiated a special rate of \$39.95 plus tax per night with the Comfort Inn located at 8442 Palm Parkway in Buena Vista. This hotel is located about 3.5 miles from Coronado Springs. The number to call for reservations at the Comfort Inn is 407-996-7300.

In order to get the special rate for either hotel, be sure to mention that you are attending the DRC conference.

Additional hotel and conference registration information can be found at [www.acresolution.org](http://www.acresolution.org).

## Reminder- Please Take Note

There will be **no court** on August 8<sup>th</sup>. One of the calendars that was distributed mistakenly indicated otherwise.

## Mediator Evaluations and Stats

We have a large quantity of evaluations submitted by litigants. Please pick them up from Janet the next time you are in the office. Also, individual second quarter and year-to-date stats have been compiled and are available for your review. We do not publish individual statistics, but many of you have indicated a desire to know how many cases you've mediated and what percentage are settled. Individual statistics are available to mediators each quarter.

## July Stats

Volunteers mediated 54 cases in Alachua County in July and settled 63 percent. The outcome is pending in 6 cases. Four cases were mediated in the neighboring counties, with agreements reached in two cases and one case pending. Year-to-date, 447 cases have been

mediated in the circuit with an overall settlement rate of 65 percent. During the same period last year, the program mediated 456 cases throughout the circuit and had an overall settlement rate of 63 percent.

## It's Almost That Time Again!

We anticipate that the law student clinicians will be starting the mentorship phase of their training sometime around the middle of September. As always, the students will be depending in large part on the assistance of program volunteers to complete their mentorship. And again, as always, we are asking you to let us know the extent to which you wish to participate with mentoring the students by completing the enclosed form and returning it to Janet.

## Important Dates

August 8 - No Court  
September 12 - CME Luncheon  
October 15-18 - DRC/ACR Joint Conference, Coronado Springs Resort, Orlando

How to reach us:

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If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in county mediation proceedings you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Court Administrator's Office by phone at (352) 337-6237 or in person or in writing at 201 E. University Ave, Gainesville FL 32601 within 2 working days of your receipt of this newsletter; if you are hearing impaired, call (800) 955-8771; if you are voice impaired, call (800) 955-8770.

## Eighth Judicial Circuit County Mediation Program Results

### July 2003

County	Cases Mediated	Written Agreements Reached	Percent Written Agreements	Continued Cases Pending	Continued Cases Defaulted
Alachua	54	30	63%	6	0
Baker	1	0	-	1	0
Bradford	0	0	-	0	0
Gilchrist	0	0	-	0	0
Levy	6	4	67%	0	0
Union	1	0	0%	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>

### 2003 Year-To-Date

January through July

County	Cases Mediated	Written Agreements Reached	Percent Written Agreements	Continued Cases Pending	Continued Cases Defaulted
Alachua	388	238	66%	25	3
Baker	8	5	83%	2	0
Bradford	16	8	50%	0	0
Gilchrist	4	2	50%	0	0
Levy	29	15	52%	0	0
Union	6	5	83%	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>3</b>

Note: Percent written agreements does not include continued cases that are pending.

NA= Not Available

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your interest in mentoring law students in the Mediation Clinic. Remember that mentors should be willing to spend approximately 15 minutes after each observation or co-mediation to discuss the session with the students.

\_\_\_\_\_ You may assign me student observers \_\_\_\_\_ time(s) during the Fall 2003 mediation clinic.

\_\_\_\_\_ You may assign me student co-mediators \_\_\_\_\_ time(s) during the Fall 2003 mediation clinic.

\_\_\_\_\_ I prefer not to have student observers.

\_\_\_\_\_ I prefer not to have student co-mediators.