

County Mediation Matters

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Real knowledge is to know the extent of one's ignorance.

- Confucius

It's what you learn after you know it all that counts.

- John Wooden

no attorney is present must return to the courtroom to speak with Judge Nilon.

Suggestions?

We are always interested in hearing your thoughts on the way things are going with the program, and especially any suggestions for improvement or program enhancement. We value our volunteers' participation and want your volunteer experience to be as enjoyable as it is worthwhile. So, please, just let us know.

Upcoming Events and Dates

February 8 - CME Luncheon
March 9 - FAPM/FAPFM Seminar
March 15 - CME Luncheon
March 29 - Court closed for Good Friday
April 19 - CME Luncheon (tentative)
May 10 - CME Luncheon (tentative)

CME Opportunity

The Florida Academy of Professional Mediators and the Florida Association of Professional Family Mediators is sponsoring an Advanced Mediation Seminar entitled "Continuing the Dialogue". This one-day seminar will be held on Saturday, March 9th at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando. County mediators can receive up to 7.2 hours of CME credit, including 1.5 CME credits for ethics, for attendance at the entire seminar. A copy of the registration form is included with this newsletter. If you qualified for a stipend based upon cases mediated in 2001, you may use it on a reimbursable basis for expenses relating to this seminar. Please let Janet know if you are interested in attending and she will submit the mandatory preauthorization paperwork.

And Speaking of CMEs...

Mediators will receive notification that their certification is up for renewal approximately three months prior to their certification renewal date. In order to allow time for processing, you will be asked to submit your application approximately six weeks before your certification is due to expire. Please keep this in mind so you don't find yourself needing to collect a lot of CME credits in a very short period of time.

January Stats

Volunteers mediated 66 cases circuit-wide in January. Agreements were reached in 63 percent. In Alachua County, 35 of 61 cases (65 percent) were settled, with the outcome pending in seven cases. Two of five cases were settled in the neighboring counties.

CME Luncheon

The February CME luncheon will be on February 8th in the Grand Jury Room at noon. Coming up on March 15th, Susan Lindgard has offered to do the program for the CME luncheon on a topic yet to be determined. Lunch will be provided for both events. We're hoping to start a trend... Any other volunteers for program chair? We would also welcome any creative ideas you might have for program topics and speakers for our CME luncheons.

Procedural Clarification

Occasionally in a mediation between two unrepresented parties, one of the *pro se* litigants will indicate that he or she is represented by an attorney. If the attorney is not present, it is still required for both parties to return to the courtroom when the case is to be heard by Judge Nilon. The only exception to this (for the time being) is cases involving Redball Recovery that are mediated by one of their non-attorney representatives. All other cases in which

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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.