

County Mediation Matters

A Publication of the Administrative Office of the Court

Volume 8, No. 10
October 2002

If you approach life with a sense of possibility and the expectation of positive results, you're more likely to have a life in which possibilities are realized and results are positive.

-Lise Funderburg

CME Luncheon Tapes

We are going to try to audio record as many of our CME Luncheon programs as possible to keep in our library. Our first taped luncheon was on October 4th with Nancy Moses and Julia Rogers from the Clerk's office as our guests (and guinea pigs!). This was a very informative session on the Clerk's responsibilities and procedures. If you missed the luncheon and would like to check out the tape, please see Janet.

From the Clerks

Julia and Nancy had a couple of tips for the mediators to help make the Clerk's job a little bit easier.

- Please take care to write legibly. This might mean printing a bit larger than you normally would. It is preferable to use the 2nd page of the agreement forms instead of trying to cram the terms of a complicated agreement into the few lines allotted on Page 1 of the Results of Mediation form.

- The names of all parties should be included on the top part of the form, even those who do not attend the mediation, and should be written as shown in the court file. Please also include a current address for each party.

- A phone number is very helpful to the Clerk, provided that the parties do not object to providing one.

Scheduling

If you are scheduled to mediate on Friday mornings and have to leave before noon, please let Janet know *before* Friday morning. We plan the schedule based on the assumption that all mediators will be available until at least noon. If we know of any time constraints in advance, then we can schedule additional mediators if needed. As many of you have learned the hard way, mediations can extend to way past noon, but for planning purposes we like everyone to be available until at least noon.

September Stats

Volunteers mediated 57 cases in Alachua County in September and settled 64 percent. The outcome is pending in seven cases. One case out of six mediated in the neighboring counties was settled. (*Tough crowd!*) Year-to-date, volunteers have mediated 624 cases in the Eighth Circuit and settled 62 percent.

November CME Luncheon

Our November CME Luncheon is scheduled for November 1st in the Grand Jury Room. Two of our own, Jahala Stirling and Dot Whittle, will do a presentation on "The Art of Mentoring." Providing mentorship to new mediators is one of the most important and potentially rewarding jobs we do as mediators; effective mentoring truly is an art. Please

plan to attend and participate in this session as we kick off Mediation Week 2002 !!

Save The Date

Volunteer mediators are invited to be our guests for the 4th Annual Holiday Appreciation Luncheon. The date is set for Tuesday, December 17th, so please mark your calendars and plan to join us. Details to follow.

Important Dates

November 1st through 7th -

Celebrate Mediation Week !!

November 11th - Veterans Day,
Courthouse closed

November 28-29 - Thanksgiving

December 24-25 - Christmas

December 27 - No Court

How to reach us:

Robin Davis, ADR Director
Administrative Office of the Court
Phone: 352-491-4417
Fax: 352-491-4667
E-Mail: rkd@circuit8.org

Janet Hearn, Program Manager
Administrative Office of the Court
Phone: 352-491-4645
Fax: 352-491-4667
E-Mail: jkh@circuit8.org

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

September 2002

County	Cases Mediated	Written Agreements Reached	Percent Written Agreements	Continued Cases Pending	Continued Cases Defaulted
Alachua	57	32	64%	7	0
Baker	2	1	50%	0	0
Bradford	1	0	0%	0	0
Gilchrist	0	0	NA	0	0
Levy	3	0	0%	0	0
Union	0	0	NA	0	0
Total	63	33	59%	7	0

2002 Year-To-Date

January through September

County	Cases Mediated	Written Agreements Reached	Percent Written Agreements	Continued Cases Pending	Continued Cases Defaulted
Alachua	541	332	63%	16	10
Baker	15	10	71%	1	0
Bradford	22	14	64%	0	0
Gilchrist	1	1	100%	0	0
Levy	34	15	44%	0	1
Union	11	6	55%	0	0
Total	624	378	62%	17	11

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