

# County Mediation Matters

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**You can't shake hands with a clenched fist.**

*-Indira Gandhi*

## Mediation Library

We have added several audio tapes to the mediation library. These tapes are available for volunteers to check out for use in fulfilling the CME requirements. Remember, you may fulfill up to 50 percent of the CME requirement using audio and video tapes if you listen to or view them by yourself. One hundred percent of the required CME can be fulfilled using tapes if you listen to or view the tapes with at least one other person and discuss the material contained therein.

Audio tapes currently available in our library include:

*Ethics In County Mediation: Impartiality and Neutrality*

*An Eye On The Mediator Ethics Advisory Committee*

*Listening Without Ego: Getting Yourself Out Of The Way Of Effective Communication*

*When It's Not About The Money*

*Communication Beyond 101: Maximizing Your Potential*

Available videos include:

*How To Critique A Role Play*

*Mediation Works: Make It Work For You*

*Alternative Dispute Resolution (produced by the Continuing Legal Education Committee of the Florida Bar)*

And, finally, someone borrowed our audio tape copy of the book "Getting Past No", and we can't remember who it was. So, if you are the person who borrowed it, will you please let us know that you have it or, if you are finished with it, please return it.

## Emergency Procedures

If the fire alarm sounds while you are in the courthouse mediating, exit the building with the parties, and any others who might be in the mediation room, using either the north or the south stairwell, whichever is closest, and proceed to the west side of the county administration building (facing Main Street). Do not use the elevators or the stairway next to the elevators. Locate either Janet or Robin and let them know that you and all of the mediation participants have evacuated the building. Reporting in is very important because security will initiate a search of the building for anyone not accounted for.

## August Stats

Volunteers mediated 80 cases in Alachua County in August and settled 66 percent. The outcome is pending in seven cases. Six of ten cases were settled in the neighboring counties, with one

pending. Circuit-wide, the year-to-date settlement rate is 62 percent.

## CME Luncheons

Don't forget the September CME Luncheon on September 20<sup>th</sup> in the Grand Jury Room. Also, just two short weeks after that on October 4<sup>th</sup> we will have our October CME Luncheon. Our guests will be Nancy Moses and Julia Rogers from the Clerk's office. They will be providing an overview of the small claims process before and after mediation so that volunteers have a more complete understanding of case management.

## Upcoming Court Holidays

September 16<sup>th</sup> - Yom Kippur  
November 11<sup>th</sup> - Veterans Day  
November 28-29 - Thanksgiving  
December 24-25 - Christmas

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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**

### **August 2002**

<b>County</b>	<b>Cases Mediated</b>	<b>Written Agreements Reached</b>	<b>Percent Written Agreements</b>	<b>Continued Cases Pending</b>	<b>Continued Cases Defaulted</b>
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Baker</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Bradford</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Gilchrist</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Levy</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Union</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>

### **2002 Year-To-Date**

January through August

<b>County</b>	<b>Cases Mediated</b>	<b>Written Agreements Reached</b>	<b>Percent Written Agreements</b>	<b>Continued Cases Pending</b>	<b>Continued Cases Defaulted</b>
<b>Alachua</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Baker</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Bradford</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Gilchrist</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Levy</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Union</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>55%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>11</b>

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