



Northern Community Mediation

Where The Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

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CHIEF JUSTICE MAURA CORRIGAN

As part of our tenth anniversary celebration, Chief Justice Maura Corrigan is coming to Petoskey. The occasion will take place on Wednesday, May 19 at the Perry Hotel. A social hour will begin at 6:00, followed by dinner at 7:00. Chief Justice Corrigan will address the group after dinner. Further details will be available at a later date.

OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday, February 10 at 10:30 a.m.

In celebration of opening its Petoskey office, a ribbon-cutting ceremony will be held at NCM. If you have a few minutes to spare, stop by the office to participate in the event, meet the ambassadors of the Petoskey Chamber of Commerce, and have a cup of coffee.

Tuesday, March 30 at 5:30 p.m.

There will be a meeting for all mediators. We will be reviewing policy and procedure relating to mediations, as well as updating you on the latest information regarding the alternative dispute resolution program. The meeting will take place at our new office in Petoskey. A light dinner will be served.

FORTY HOUR TRAINING

Just a reminder that a forty-hour training for those interested in becoming mediators has been scheduled in June. Six dates are involved: the evening of Thursday, June 3; all day, Friday, June 4; all day Saturday, June 5; the evening of Thursday, June 10; all day Friday, June 11; and all day Saturday, June 12. The fees are as follows:

- \$100 for those interested in mediating for NCM
 - \$100 for potential mediators from other CDRP centers
 - \$300 for those not planning on mediating for NCM
- Corporate group rates are as follows:
- \$250/person for 2 to 4 people
 - \$200/person for 5 to 7 people

POLICY & PROCEDURE

For the purpose of clarification, the following procedural issues are being addressed:

- Remember either to read verbatim or paraphrase the consent form prior to entering into the mediation process as such. This is important because everyone at the table needs to understand the essence of the consent form. It also is a safe guard in case one of the parties does not read.
- In the packet of materials you receive prior to mediation, there will be two stamps. One will say "original;" the other will say "counter copy original." When an agreement is reached, the original should be stamped as such. It should then be placed in the mediation packet of materials and returned to Pat Dull or placed in her office if she is not available. All copies of the agreement should be stamped "counter copy original."
- When you conduct an evening mediation or when no staff is at the office, after placing the mediation packet of materials in Pat's office, lock her door, and then push the key underneath the door.

If you have any questions regarding the above procedures, do not hesitate to call the office.

A CELEBRITY AMONG US

Emmet County Circuit Court Judge Charles Johnson was recently featured as a person "who makes a difference in our community" in the Petoskey News-Review. His first job in northern Michigan was bussing tables at Boyne Highlands during Christmas break. He permanently moved to Petoskey in 1978 when he became a practicing attorney. In 1994, he was elected to the position of circuit court judge. His reason for wanting to be a judge? He feels he is better able to help people as a judge than as an attorney.