



Northern Community Mediation

Where the Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet & Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

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PREPARING FOR MEDIATION



Karen Cole and Jeff Higgs prepare for a mediation, while Kendal Taylor makes his final observation before becoming a full-fledged mediator.

UPCOMING TRAININGS

Do not forget to use the NCM website to check out upcoming trainings both locally and around the state. The Advanced Mediation Training scheduled for Friday, September 25 may be of special interest to you. Go to www.northernmediation.org

POLICY CLARIFICATION

Certain types of mediations require that the mediators have additional training to the 40-hour, general civil training: divorce, special education, child protection, victim-offender, guardianship, parenting time, postal, agricultural. Occasionally, NCM is not able to schedule two mediators who have had the specialized training. When this happens, the Intake Coordinators will ask an experienced mediator to assist the specialized, trained mediator in these cases. Call the NCM office if you have any questions regarding this policy.

GRADUATION

Congratulations to Ed Ensgstrom, Kendal Taylor and Wayne Tri, who have just completed their 10-hour internships. They were in the 2009 40-hour, general civil training class, and now join NCM as mediators.

BREAK, MEDIATION, & CAUCUS ROOMS

Now that we have three mediator-caucus rooms in addition to our main mediation room, please use these rooms rather than the break room for caucuses or a place for parties to wait. When the break room is used, people cannot get into it so that they can get coffee, water or items from the refrigerator.

THANK YOU

As a result of a \$500 grant from the Charlevoix Lion's Club, NCM was able to purchase a portable printer that can be used by the mediators when mediating cases off site. Additionally, we were able to update our phone system, which definitely needed to be done.

The Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation had a wood table that they no longer needed. Therefore, we brought it over to the NCM office, and it is being used in one of our caucus rooms (the one that used to be Cheryl's office). Additionally, they had a color printer that we will use to replace the one that was in the work room.

NCM is totally dependent upon the generosity of the mediators' time. NCM is grateful for that commitment. There are times, however, when one person goes beyond all expectations. Thanks, Bruce Herbert for going out of your way. NCM owes you big time.

SYMPATHY

Condolences to Bob Keil, one of our newest mediators from the class of 2009, on the death of his nephew, who served in Viet Nam. He had a military funeral and was buried in the Ft. Custer Military Cemetery.

PREJUDICE

Dismissal with prejudice is "usually considered an adjudication upon the merits and will operate as a bar to future action. Dismissal without prejudice is "usually an indication that the dismissal affects no right or remedy of the parties, i.e. is not on the merits and does not bar a subsequent suit on the same cause of action."

WRITING AGREEMENTS

Remember that the issues for which a case is ordered/referred must be addressed. If an agreement is reached relating to other issues but does not include an agreement relating to the ordered issues, stipulate as such on the agreement itself.