

**New Jersey Judiciary
Municipal Court Services Division
Presumptive Mediation Pilot Program
Mediation Information**

Mediation utilizes volunteers, trained as mediators to settle disputes. Mediation is used to achieve several goals; early intervention in less serious community and interpersonal tensions, remove the necessity of a court record for minor personal disputes and to relieve congestion in the court.

Mediation is an alternative to resolving disputes in Municipal Court. Trained mediators listen to all sides and help the parties to reconcile or settle disputes without court intervention. Mediation is solution oriented and dedicated to the principal that the settlement of a dispute rests with the disputants themselves.

Why is Mediation Recommended?

1. There is no court cost to either party.
2. If mediation is successful, there is no court record when the complaint is dismissed.
3. Mediation promotes harmony among disputing parties because these parties play a role in the resolution of their case.
4. There is no "win/lose situation:" All parties are winners.
5. There is no pressure on the parties to reach an agreement.
6. Mediation supports the idea of community involvement by using volunteer members of the community, as mediators, in terms.

How are Cases Referred?

1. A complainant files an informal notice of mediation with the court administrator to initiate the mediation process. Once this form is signed, a mediation date is set and a copy of this notice is forwarded to all involved parties.
2. A citizen, can also report an incident to the police who may refer the citizen to the local court administrator for more information.
3. After a formal complaint has been filed and the parties appear before a Municipal Court Judge, the judge may decide after reviewing the complaint, that the case is appropriate for mediation.

Contact 856-854-7535 to obtain information about how to file a complaint.

The Role of Disputing Parties

Disputing parties play the primary role in reaching a realistic and workable agreement. All parties are expected to refrain from name calling, profanity, or threatening behavior. Parties are expected to listen to each other and negotiate a fair and reasonable agreement.

Who Are The Mediators?

1. Persons who have completed forty hours of training combined with experience to assist parties resolve their contested issue.
2. Individuals who can remain objective and neutral and who can deal effectively with people.
3. People with the ability to get others to communicate.

The Parties Reach an Agreement:

Once the parties reach an agreement, mediators will put it in writing. Everyone will sign the agreement and get a copy. If your case was referred to mediation by the judge, the judge will review the agreement.

If No Agreement is Reached:

If the case was court referred, the mediators will return it to court for formal proceedings. If the matter was referred to mediation prior to signing a formal complaint, you may wish to file a formal complaint with the court administrator. Cases unresolved through mediation must be referred back to court for disposition.

If an Agreement is Reached but Broken:

If your case was court referred, you may notify the court administrator to determine the course of any further action.

If you did not previously file a complaint, you may file a complaint with the court administrator or request an additional mediation session.

Volunteer as a Member:

We are always seeking members to volunteer to sit on the Committee. If you are interested, please call the Violations Bureau at 856-854-7535.



**New Jersey Judiciary
Municipal Court Services Division
Presumptive Mediation Pilot Program
Mediation Information**

For Office Use Only
Mediation Case Number

Sent to Mediation?

Yes No

Date:

Municipal Court of _____

Filing Party			Other Party (include as much information as you can)		
NAME Last		First	Middle	NAME Last	
				First	
				Middle	
ADDRESS Street			ADDRESS Street		
City		State	Zip Code	City	
				State	
				Zip Code	
PHONE NO. Home		Work		PHONE NO. Home	
				Work	
Do you have any needs under the Americans with Disabilities Act? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please identify any requirements or accommodations you may require.			Does the other party have any needs under the Americans with Disabilities Act? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown If yes, please identify any requirements or accommodations the other party may require (if known).		
Do you require an interpreter? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, for what language? _____			Will an interpreter be needed? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown If yes, for what language? _____		
Other party's relationship to you (neighbor, friend, etc.) _____					
Is the other party 18 years old or older? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown					
Were there any serious injuries? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No					
Does your dispute involve a traffic violation? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No					
Is there a current Domestic Violence Restraining Order between you and the other party; or, are you and the other party involved in a court matter under the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No					
Are you and the other party involved in a Superior Court matter at this time? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No					
Are you aware of a clearly demonstrated psychological or emotional disability of the other party? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No					
Have there been repeated acts of violence between you and the other party? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No					
Briefly describe what happened:					
Signature _____				Date _____	