

County Mediation Matters

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A good memory is one trained to forget the trivial.

- Clifton Fadiman (1904-1999)
Writer and editor

Room Use Reminders

1) None of the doors in the courthouse are sound proof. When you caucus, your conversations may not be private unless you take care to ensure that the other party waits in an area at a distance from the door to the mediation room. Parties have been known to literally put an ear to the door in order to hear what is being said in caucus.

2) Keep to the room to which you are assigned. There are two main reasons for this. First, we need to know where to find you, particularly in the event of an emergency. Second, a room that looks empty is not necessarily available or authorized for your use. It could be reserved for another purpose, or it could be another court employee's private office. Court employees maintain confidential records, and it is not appropriate to allow members of the public potential access to confidential material.

CME Luncheon Schedule

Date	Guest Speaker Topic
March 28, 2008	Len Riskin, Esq., UF Law Professor "Decision-making in Mediation: The New Old Grid and the New New Grid System"
April 18, 2008	Robin Davis, Esq. "Preventing Perceptions of Mediator Bias"
May 16, 2008	To Be Determined

As has been our practice in the past, there will not be any CME Luncheons during the summer (June, July, and August). Luncheons will resume in September provided that financial resources remain available.

We were able to video-record John Stinson's presentation at the February CME Luncheon using the courtroom video/audio recording system. The CD is available for playback on a computer only. If you do

not have a computer you may use one of the mediation computers. The program was very informative and is well worth watching.

Invoices

If you are anticipating payment for a contract mediation or for mileage for travel to other counties, please be sure to check your mailbox in Janet's office for the invoice that you must sign in order to receive payment. We endeavor to have invoices prepared and in your box for signature no later than the end of the month in which services are provided. Invoices submitted more than 60 days after service is provided run the risk of not being paid. And, please, **DO NOT** return signed invoices to the mailboxes! Leave them out where Janet will see them, preferably in one of her two gray inboxes.

2008 Court Holidays

Friday, March 21 st	Good Friday Holiday - No Court; Court Administration closed
Monday, May 26 th	Memorial Day Holiday - Courthouse closed
Friday, July 4 th	Independence Day Holiday - Courthouse closed
Monday, September 1 st	Labor Day Holiday - Courthouse closed
Tuesday, September 30 th	Rosh Hashanah Holiday - Court Administration closed
Thursday, October 9 th	Yom Kippur Holiday - Court Administration closed
Tuesday, November 11 th	Veterans' Day Holiday - Courthouse closed
Thursday and Friday, November 27 th and 28 th	Thanksgiving Holiday - Courthouse closed
Thursday and Friday, December 25 th and 26 th	Christmas Holiday - Courthouse closed

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Persons with a disability who need any accommodation in order to participate should call Jan Phillips, ADA Coordinator, Alachua County Courthouse Family and Civil Justice Center, 201 E. University Ave., Gainesville, FL 32601 at (352) 337-6237 within two (2) working days of your receipt of this notice; if you are hearing impaired, call (800) 955-8771; if you are voice impaired, call (800) 955-8770.

Celebrate Volunteer Appreciation Week April 27 – May 3, 2008!!

Eighth Judicial Circuit County Mediation Program Results

3rd and 4th Quarter Statistics July through December 2007

County	Cases Mediated	Written Agreements Reached	Percent Written Agreements	Pending Continued Cases	Continued Cases Defaulted
Alachua	282	190	68%	2	7
Baker	30	26	90%	1	0
Bradford	26	21	88%	2	0
Gilchrist	5	3	60%	0	0
Levy	10	6	67%	1	0
Union	10	9	90%	0	0
Total	363	255	71%	6	7

2007 Statistics January through December

County	Cases Mediated	Written Agreements Reached	Percent Written Agreements	Pending Continued Cases	Continued Cases Defaulted
Alachua	628	427	68%	3	11
Baker	63	52	84%	1	0
Bradford	44	38	90%	2	0
Gilchrist	15	10	67%	0	0
Levy	17	12	75%	1	0
Union	18	17	94%	0	0
Total	785	556	71%	7	11

Note: The percentage of written agreements does not include pending continued cases.