

Dispute Resolution Act

In 1986, the Supreme Court of Oklahoma adopted Rules and Procedures for the Dispute Resolution Act, 12 O.S. 1801et seq., providing guidelines for the establishment of dispute resolution centers. The purpose of the Dispute Resolution Act is "to provide to all citizens of this state convenient access to dispute resolution proceedings which are fair, effective, inexpensive, and expeditious." Early Settlement Centers operate under the authority of the Oklahoma Dispute Resolution Act. The centers provide low-cost mediation services to all who wish to negotiate interpersonal matters. To initiate mediation, each party must pay a \$5 processing charge as required by the Oklahoma Statute, except in cases ordered by the court. Cases resolved by mediation may involve money, property, business transactions, personal relationships, assault, harrassment, animal disturbances, neighborhood disturbances, or other matters. The disputes may be with mates, ex-mates, other family members, neighbors, landlords or tenants, consumers or merchants.

For More Information Contact:

**STATEWIDE
HOTLINE
(877) 521-6677**

EARLY SETTLEMENT REGIONAL OFFICES

CENTRAL PROGRAM
Administrative Office of the Courts
1915 North Stiles, Suite 305
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

(405) 522-7872
Oklahoma, Cleveland, & Canadian counties

EAST CENTRAL PROGRAM
East Central University
Continuing Education
Fentem Hall Room 304
Ada, OK 74820

(580) 310-5674 (888) 508-5674
*Garvin, Grady, Hughes, McIntosh, McClain,
Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Pontotoc, Pottawatomie, &
Seminole counties*

NORTH PROGRAM
109^{1/2} W. 9th Street,
Suite 202
Chandler, Oklahoma 74834

(405) 258-3000 (800) 464-5677
*Creek, Kay, Lincoln, Logan, Noble, Osage,
Pawnee, & Payne counties*

NORTHEAST PROGRAM
Northeastern State University
Tahlequah Campus
705 N. Grand
Tahlequah, OK 74464-2300

(918) 456-5511 (800) 722-9614 x 3007
*Adair, Cherokee, Craig, Delaware, Mayes,
Muskogee, Nowata, Ottawa, Rogers,
Wagoner, & Washington counties*

NORTHWEST PROGRAM
Major County Courthouse
500 East Broadway
Fairview, OK 73737

(580) 227-2711 (800) 371-1344
*Alfalfa, Blaine, Custer, Dewey, Ellis, Garfield,
Grant, Kingfisher, Major, Woods, & Woodward
counties*

PANHANDLE PROGRAM
Texas County Courthouse Annex
319 North Main
Guyton, OK 73942

(580) 338-3220 (800) 877-3020
Beaver, Cimarron, Harper, & Texas counties

SOUTH CENTRAL PROGRAM
East Central University
Continuing Education
Fentem Hall Room 303
Ada, Oklahoma 74820

(580) 310-5634 (800) 804-2384
*Atoka, Bryan, Carter, Coal, Jefferson, Johnston,
Love, Marshall, Murray, & Stephens counties*

SOUTHEAST PROGRAM
104 East Carl Albert Parkway,
Suite 1
McAlester, OK 74501

(918) 426-0446 (800) 847-1985
*Choctaw, Haskell, Latimer, LeFlore, McCurtain,
Pittsburg, Pushmataha, & Sequoyah counties*

SOUTHWEST PROGRAM
Greer County Courthouse
106 East Jefferson, Suite 205A
Mangum, OK 73554

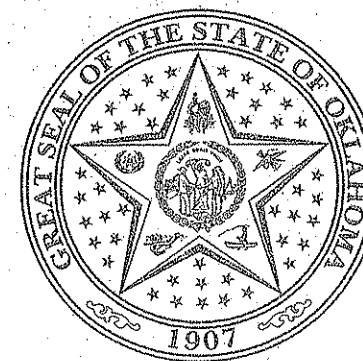
(580) 782-3127 (800) 773-8853
*Beckham, Caddo, Comanche, Cotton, Greer,
Harmon, Kiowa, Jackson, Roger Mills, Tillman,
& Washita counties*

CITY OF EDMOND
Municipal Courts Building
24 East First Street
Edmond, OK 73083
(405) 359-4350

CITY OF NORMAN
201 West Gray Street
POB 370
Norman, OK 73070
(405) 217-7700

CITY OF TULSA
Tulsa City Hall
200 Civic Center, Room 601-L
Tulsa, OK 74103
(918) 596-7786

Mediation



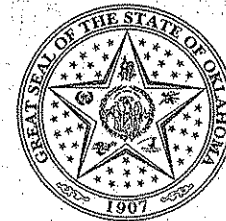
Early Settlement

A
Fast Fair
LOW COST
Way To
Settle Conflicts

STATEWIDE HOTLINE (877) 521-6677

Mediation.

Mediation is a process which allows individuals to voluntarily resolve disputes in a confidential out-of-court procedure



Who It's For

Many Oklahomans find mediation helps them to resolve disputes involving:

- ✓ Neighbors
- ✓ Landlords and Tenants
- ✓ Consumers and Merchants
- ✓ Divorce and Child Custody
- ✓ Victim/Juvenile Offenders
- ✓ Small Claims Court
- ✓ Civil Court
- ✓ Guardianship
- ✓ Family
- ✓ Parent/School
- ✓ Community

How Mediation Works

In Mediation a neutral, third party helps those in conflict define issues, explore solutions and reach practical, workable and mutually satisfactory agreements. Mediation seeks to prevent conflicts from escalating, saving everyone involved the time and expense of going to court.

Mediation is a process which can help ALL parties involved:

- Get past their anger, frustration, guilt or "desire to punish"
- Clarify their underlying, bottom-line goals
- See their "opponent's" feelings, viewpoints and goals
- Cooperatively build a lasting, WIN/WIN voluntary solution
- Create an atmosphere of on-going cooperation and efficiency

All mediations are handled promptly and confidentially.

Where & When are Mediations Held?

The mediation sessions are held in out-of court settings, such as jury rooms, conference rooms, libraries, or other public meeting rooms. Every effort is made to schedule sessions at the convenience of everyone involved.

How Well It's Working...

Statistics of completed mediations have shown a consistent high "agreement" rate on resolution of issues. Participants report satisfaction with Early Settlement mediators and the agreements made in mediation.

People keep the agreements that they make themselves!

Who are the Mediators?

Mediators are community volunteers who have completed specialized training and are certified by the Administrative Director of the Courts. Mediators assist both parties in negotiating and solving their own problems.

Early Settlement

Another Way to Solve Conflicts.....