

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF _____ COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA

Plaintiff(s)

vs.

Civil Action No: _____

Defendant(s)

MEDIATION ORDER

The Court hereby directs the parties to seek an equitable settlement of the issues in this matter. If an agreement is reached, the undersigned Judge is to be notified immediately and the settlement agreement shall be filed with the Clerk of the Superior Court for inclusion in the official record of this case. If no agreement is reached within five (5) days of the date of this order, the parties are hereby ordered to attend together and participate in good faith in at least one mediation session with a mediator registered with the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution. The Official Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit Mediator List is available at the Office of Dispute Resolution.

The parties must agree on the chosen mediator and select a date for mediation within ten (10) business days of the date of this order. **If the parties do not notify the Office of Dispute Resolution of their selected mediator within said ten (10) business days, the Office of Dispute Resolution for the Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit will appoint a mediator.** Regardless of the number of parties, the parties are to share equally the fees of the selected mediator unless otherwise agreed. The mediator will coordinate with the parties to schedule the mediation session. Except for emergency situations, all parties must agree to cancel a mediation session once scheduled. **Parties must submit a joint agreement to cancel a mediation session at least 24 hours prior to the mediation date.** Failure to provide adequate notice of cancellation to the mediator will require the offending party or parties to compensate the mediator for one hour of service at the mediator’s standard rate.

In domestic matters, all parties must bring a Domestic Relations Financial Affidavit (pursuant to U.S.C.R. 24.2) and, if applicable, have attended the Seminar for Divorcing Parents prior to any mediation session.

Each party must report to the undersigned Judge the terms of settlement. In addition, the Court may place any case on the next available trial calendar even if mediation has not been completed. This order does not affect any scheduled hearings or other proceedings. All parties are responsible for compliance with the general ADR rules and this order. Compliance requires good faith negotiation but does not require settlement. Although attorneys are not required to attend the mediation session, the Court strongly encourages attorney attendance and participation.

The parties shall mediate this case within 90 days of entry of this order unless otherwise ordered by the Court. **The Office of Dispute Resolution will report to the Court any cases in which there has not been compliance with this order.** The Office of Dispute Resolution is directed to file this order with the Clerk of the Superior Court and to provide a copy of this order to all parties.

SO ORDERED, this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

Judge, Superior Court
Chattahoochee Judicial Circuit

_____, Attorney for Plaintiff

_____, Attorney for Defendant(s)

Office of Dispute Resolution * 308 10th Street * Columbus, GA 31901 * 706-653-4190 *

Copies furnished: Plaintiff, Defendant, Judge, Clerk’s Office and Office of Dispute Resolution

Revised 1/13/16