



## Mediation Services for Anoka County

Helping to manage conflict and reduce violence  
through education and conflict resolution services.

To: Prospective Client

Re: Mediation Conference

Thank you for your interest in **Mediation Services for Anoka County**. Enclosed, please find a copy of our brochure with information about mediation. I hope this information will help you decide about mediation for your situation.

### Who We Are:

**Mediation Services** is a private, non-profit organization. Mediators at **Mediation Services** are community volunteers with various backgrounds, interests and occupations. All mediators have completed a minimum of 30 hours of initial State-certified training. Also, each has received a minimum of six hours of supplementary training every year.

### How Mediation Works:

**Mediations are held at Mediation Services offices.** Mediation is a simple and voluntary process. The purpose of mediation is to reduce any animosity which may exist between parties and to develop agreements that are jointly acceptable to all parties involved. Parties meet with each other and two neutral, third-party mediators who will facilitate a discussion in order to identify issues, problem solve together, and develop agreements that are jointly acceptable to all parties. MSAC provides a neutral, positive, non-threatening environment to enable parties to reach a peaceful solution. *Note: This agency adheres strictly to a No Weapons Policy, which means that firearms and knives are not permitted on the premises.*

### The Mediator's Role:

The role of the mediator is to assist parties in this process. Mediators **are not** responsible to settle problems, make suggestions, or provide an appropriate outcome. Mediators are neutral, third-party facilitators who assist parties with communication in order for them to develop their own jointly acceptable solution. If parties are able to reach a solution, it is documented in the agreement. This is a "good-faith" agreement between the parties. Mediators cannot legally comment on the agreement, but encourage you to consult your attorney for more information regarding its application within the legal process.

### Fees For Service:

Mediation is, generally, offered at no charge to the parties unless the mediation is for a large group or involves monetary recovery. There is also a modest fee for schools and post divorce cases.

Please contact this office if you need more information or would like a file opened for you.