



CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN MEDIATION

1. We the participants, agree that mediation is a voluntary process. We acknowledge that at any time before an agreement is reached, we or the mediators may end the mediation.
2. We, the participants, understand the mediation is not a court proceeding, and the mediators may not provide legal advice. Any agreement reached by us may be legally binding, therefore; we may wish to consult with an attorney prior to signing an agreement. We have notified the mediators of any court cases with the other participant(s) in the mediation.
3. We, the participants, understand and expect that the discussions in mediation and those with the mediation program staff will remain confidential. We, the participants, will not share information from the mediation in any judicial, administrative, or other hearing. As participants, we understand that we are free to talk about what was said in mediation with others, unless we agree otherwise in writing. Any written agreement which comes out of mediation is not considered confidential, unless we agree otherwise in writing.
4. We, the participants, understand and expect that the mediators and staff will not share information gathered during intake or mediation with anyone outside of the program. We acknowledge that the mediators and program staff will not share any information from the mediation in any judicial, administrative, or other hearing. Information regarding child abuse, abuse of vulnerable adults, and credible threats to do bodily harm is an exception to confidentiality and must be disclosed.
5. We, the participants, understand that the mediators signing below have read and, consistent with state law, will abide by the Maryland Standards of Conduct for Mediators* during this mediation session. Mediation confidentiality in Maryland is governed by Annotated Code of Maryland Section 3-1803 and Maryland Rules of Procedure Title 17.

Client _____ Date _____

Client _____ Date _____

Client _____ Date _____

Client _____ Date _____

Mediator _____ Date _____

Mediator _____ Date _____

Observer _____ Date _____

Observer _____ Date _____

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*Participants are welcome to access a copy of the Maryland Standards of Conduct for Mediators at <http://www.mdmediation.org/maryland-standards-conduct-mediators>