



The Mediation Center is celebrating 35 years of helping people prevent and resolve conflicts in families, schools, businesses and communities throughout Hawai'i.

The Staff:

Tracey Wiltgen
Executive Director

Jessica Stabile
Deputy Director

Nathan Nikaido
Mediator Development Manager

Huimin Yao
Administrative Assistant

Shawn Quapaw
Val Vegas
Pomai Villalon
Client Services Department

Cynthia Moore
Kupuna Pono Program Coordinator

Dennis Erikson
Theo Fujiyoshi
Esmeralda Ponce
Receptionist Department

Every time someone settles a dispute peacefully, everyone benefits. Relationships are improved and communities are strengthened.



HOUSEKEEPING REMINDERS FOR MEDIATORS

Mediator Sign-In Sheet

It is the Mediation Center's policy that everyone entering our office must sign in at the front desk. To protect mediators' identities, we now have a sign-in sheet just for mediators that is separate from the sign-in sheet used by clients. Mahalo for remembering to sign-in.

Please Arrive Early & Keep Mediation Session to 3 Hours

We ask that mediators please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to their mediation session. Please remember to pay attention to the time and not let the mediation session run longer than 3 hours. All participants are aware that 3 hours is the maximum amount of time allotted for each mediation session. If more time is needed, an additional session can be scheduled. Please agree on a proposed date and time for the next session, if possible. The Client Services staff will follow-up with the parties and the mediators to confirm the next session.

Please Let the Mediation Center Staff Check the Parties In

We ask that the mediators please keep the door to their mediation room closed prior to the start of the session. This allows the Mediation Center receptionist time to formally check the parties in before the mediation gets underway. Once the receptionist is finished handling any necessary arrangements with each of the parties, then he/she will knock on the mediation room door to indicate that everyone is now ready to begin. Thank you for waiting.

Mediation Case Evaluation Form

A Case Evaluation form is included in each case folder and must be fully completed by the mediators after every mediation session. Please make sure to complete the section at the top of the front page asking for length of session (highlighted in yellow) and also be sure to note a proposed continuation date, if any. For experienced mediators who are paired with apprentice mediators, please be sure that you both fully complete the apprentice review, which is on the back side of the Case Evaluation form. Mahalo!

Please Have the Mediation Center Staff Shred Your Notes

For confidentiality purposes, it is the Mediation Center's policy that all mediation notes not needed for a subsequent session are to be shredded. We ask that mediators do not throw their notes away in our office waste baskets but rather write "SHRED" across them and insert them into the case file folder for staff to shred. Mahalo!



Congratulations!

Thus far during 2014, the following mediators successfully completed the Apprenticeship requirements and passed their evaluation:

Kahala Dotson

Julie Field

Steve Holmberg

Sandra Jordan

Georgia McMillen

Wayne Mukaida

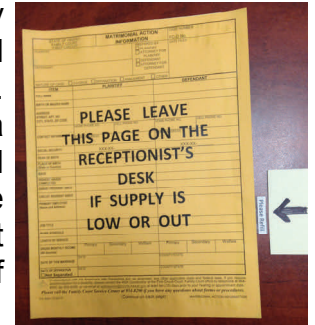
Maura Okamoto

The Apprenticeship Program includes: Basic Mediation Training; Advanced Mediation Training; ten (10) co-mediations; and the successful completion of the Evaluation process. It is the Mediation Center's policy that all mediators conclude their apprenticeship in a timely fashion. If you have completed all of the other Apprenticeship requirements but have not yet been evaluated and would like more information, please contact Nathan. nathan@mediatehawaii.org

HOUSEKEEPING REMINDERS FOR MEDIATORS

Forms Used for Domestic Case Mediations

The top drawer of the light grey filing cabinet next to the front desk contains copies of Mediation Center of the Pacific and Hawaii State Judiciary forms such as the Divorce Decree, Proposed Parenting Plan, Asset and Debt Statement, Income and Expense Statement, Child Support Guidelines, Time-sharing Calendars, Planning for the Children booklet, Divorce Law in Hawaii seminar 2014 schedule, Kids First information, and many others. Mediators in domestic cases should make use of these resources as relevant. Mediators may take copies to use during a mediation session. Should a mediator find that the folder is running low on copies, we ask that they place the "Please Refill" sheet on the front desk to alert the receptionist of the need to make additional copies. Mahalo!



TIPS FOR TRO MEDIATIONS

Below are listed the Mediation Center's policies and protocols for District Court referred TRO mediations:

The Mediation Center does not receive any information from the court prior to the mediation.

The Mediation Center does not send anything back to the court about the outcome of the mediation.

Only the parties written on the TRO (and their attorneys, if any) can participate in the mediation process.

If parties are afraid of each other, then they should be placed in separate rooms and the mediators go back and forth.

If parties want to schedule another mediation session to complete the process but cannot do so before their scheduled court date, then they will need to return to court to request an extension.

Agreements should be created electronically rather than hand-written.

Agreements about how people agree to stay away from one another, must be very specific.

Every agreement must include language that states that both parties agree that they will not return to court on the scheduled date of the TRO hearing.

Agreements cannot include people who are not present at the mediation.

If parties are willing, the agreement should include language that states that if future problems arise between the parties, then they will attempt to mediate at the Mediation Center prior to filing for a TRO.

A mediated agreement is not enforceable by the police.

ADOPT-A-COURT PROGRAM FOR RURAL DISTRICT COURTS

MAHALO TO THE CORPORATE SMALL CLAIMS COURT ON-SITE MEDIATORS

The Mediation Center has embarked on a collaboration with two corporations — The Islander Group and Hawaiian Cement — to provide services at Small Claims Court. The Mediation Center has trained and mentored a total of 6 corporate managers who are now serving as volunteer mediators at the District Court in Wahiawa on Wednesday mornings and at Ewa on Thursday mornings. Mahalo to them!

HAWAII MEDIATION PLEDGE

In 2013, The Mediation Center created the Hawaii Mediation Pledge as an aspirational document having both moral and ethical commitment. The Hawaii Mediation Pledge allows signatories to demonstrate their willingness to strive to resolve all disputes outside of litigation using alternative dispute resolution processes. Those who sign the Hawaii Mediation Pledge can opt to have their names posted on the Mediation Center of the Pacific's website as pledge signatories. While signing the pledge does indicate a commitment to alternative dispute resolution processes, it is not a legally binding document. We encourage all mediators to sign! Mediation Pledge forms are available in our office and online.

For more information on the Hawaii Mediation Pledge and to see a list of the signatories, please visit the Mediation Center's website at <http://www.mediatehawaii.org/mediation-pledge/>

MEDIATION CLIENT FEEDBACK

Great job mediators! The positive feedback from our clients is due to all of your good work! Recent client comments include:

"Great process from start to finish."

"Very understanding and helpful and pleasant. Very thankful."

"Everything went well, better than I thought it would be."

"Both mediators were really helpful and sweet to both of us. Thank you!"

"Great job on mediation. Although an agreement was not reached, the process assisted in feeling out the issues and seeing the position of the other party."

"Thank you for your help."

"Mediation was great and so were the mediators. Very helpful and reduced much stress."

"Both mediators were intelligent, insightful, communicated clearly, and did their best to help the parties resolve their dispute."

"I would recommend to everyone."

"The mediation was very productive and helpful. It is a great start!"

"I am so appreciative for this mediation process. This enabled me to gain some mental clarity about my situation. I was so full of stress beforehand. Now I'm more focused."

"It helps to have an objective third party to help the process."

"Very compassionate and professional."

"Mediation is the way to go! We had a very positive experience. Thank you!"



MARK YOUR 2014 CALENDARS!

All active mediators are required to participate in at least twenty (20) hours of continuing education and co-mediate at least five (5) cases annually.

Additional trainings, workshops and events will be offered throughout the year. Please sign up for these in advance. Look for Nathan's emails for more info!



TECHNOLOGY TOOLS FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION PROFESSIONALS

Wednesday, October 15

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Webinar Workshop by presenter Kirsten Rosa co-sponsored by the ADR Section of the HSBA, the Mediation Center of the Pacific, ACR-Hawaii, and UH Matsunaga Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution. To register, go to <http://tinyurl.com/MCPwebinar>

INTERVENTION PRACTITIONERS' TALK STORY

Thursday, October 16, 5:30-7:00 pm, 700 Bishop St, Suite 1701

An informal gathering of conflict resolution professionals and up-and-comers featuring the theme "Lessons Learned from Rookies and Veterans" co-sponsored by the ADR Section of the HSBA, the Mediation Center of the Pacific, ACR-Hawaii, and UH Matsunaga Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution. Call 956-6459 to RSVP.

JOINT FACT FINDING FOR MEDIATORS WORKSHOP

Friday, October 17

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

This workshop provides mediators a chance to learn from guest presenter Peter Adler, PhD. about negotiated joint fact finding, a method for moving participants towards cooperative solutions.

To reserve a seat, contact Nathan at nathan@mediatehawaii.org

PSYCHOLOGICAL TYPES AND CONFLICT WORKSHOP

Thursday, November 6

5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

This workshop, taught by guest presenter Professor John Barkai, Esq., will provide mediators a chance to learn about the Myers-Briggs Type Indicators for identifying various psychological types.

To reserve a seat, contact Nathan at nathan@mediatehawaii.org

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION & RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

Thursday, December 4

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

All mediators are encouraged to attend this lunchtime event! This is the Mediation Center's annual 'mahalo' to our volunteers. There will be no cost to attend. Please be sure to save the date! Additional details and a registration form will be sent out later.

DIFFICULT PEOPLE IN DOMESTIC MEDIATIONS WORKSHOP

Monday, December 8

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

This workshop, featuring co-presenters Jim Hoenig, J.D.-PhD., Sue Lehrke, Ph.D. and Craig Robinson, PhD., provides mediators a chance to learn about and discuss high emotions, dealing with difficult people, and other challenges in domestic mediations.

To reserve a seat, contact Nathan at nathan@mediatehawaii.org