

Mediation Attorney

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Free 30-Minute Consultation

What is Mediation in Divorce Cases?

If a judge or an attorney has brought up divorce mediation to you, you may be wondering what this is. Divorce mediation is an out-of-court dispute resolution tool that allows you and your ex to reasonably settle your case out of court and on your own terms. Typically, when a couple is disputing terms of the divorce, such as child custody, [child support](#), asset division and alimony, the courts will request mediation take place. During mediation, both parties work with a mediator to come to a prospective settlement. This can help alleviate some of the overcrowding taking place in family law courts, as well as help you avoid the time, cost and stress associated with a full divorce trial. If a settlement can be reached during mediation, you can avoid almost all of the court appearances that would otherwise be required.

How Does the Divorce Mediation Process Work?

You can expect the first meeting with a mediator to last about one to two hours. During the first meeting, both you

and your ex will talk about what issues you are having and what you want from the divorce settlement. Based on this information, the mediator will be able to determine what the issues are and what is holding up an agreement. the mediator will also work to gather all relevant financial and personal information. If an agreement is not reached during the first mediation session, more meetings will be scheduled, each lasting about one to two hours, as long as progress is being made. During these meetings, the mediator may bring up a couple of the issues that you and your spouse disagree about, such as child custody. They can then help you work through the issue by listening to the concerns of both parties and suggesting solutions. If an agreement is reached on all issues, the mediator will draft an agreement that can be reviewed and signed by all parties and their attorneys. If an agreement is not reached, the parties are referred back to the courts where the case may be calendared for a trial.

Mediation Versus Divorce Lawyers

If you have to go through a divorce, you may be wondering how mediation differs from having a [divorce lawyer](#). A divorce lawyer helps support and guide you with your legal decisions. A mediator is simply there to seek a resolution, not look out for your best interests. They facilitate what is going on and can't advise on any legal questions. As such, it is still important to have an attorney advise you as to whether the mediation agreement is fair to you before you sign it.

Benefits of Divorce Mediation with a Utah Attorney on Your Side

If you are going through divorce mediation in Utah, you may wish to have an attorney by your side. There are many benefits to having a mediation attorney represent you through the mediation portion of the divorce. Some of those benefits include:

- You are more likely to end up with a settlement that works for you when you go through mediation because you have a say in it.
- You are less likely to return to the court with a petition for modification when an attorney helps you come to a fair mediation resolution.
- Mediation is a fast way to get through the divorce, as your case isn't tied up in court.
- Mediation is typically less expensive and less stressful than divorce trials. This allows you to conserve your money as your transition from two incomes to one.
- Mediation allows you to work on your relationship with your soon to be ex-spouse, allowing you to peacefully move on into the next chapter of your life.
- Mediation allows you to keep things civil for the best interests of your children.

To learn more about whether mediation is right for you, [contact Salt Lake City mediation attorneys Schmidt and Gladstone](#). We have experienced divorce mediation attorneys who can help you with your case. Contact us today for a free 30 minute case evaluation.