

**Chatham County Office Of
Alternative Dispute Resolution**

Chatham County Courthouse
133 Montgomery Street, Room 503
Savannah, Georgia 31401

Telephone (912) 652-7519
Facsimile (912) 652-7591

Email: ccmartinez@chathamcounty.org
Website: <http://adr.chathamcounty.org/>

DOMESTIC RELATIONS SCREENING FORM

Dear Party/Attorney:

Mediation is your opportunity to meet with a third, neutral person, who is trained to help people communicate effectively. The neutral (or "Mediator") attempts to assist you in working out a solution which is fair, reasonable, and acceptable as a way to resolve your legal claims and concerns. In mediation, the concern is not about who is at fault, but rather what can be done to settle the problem.

However, mediation may not be appropriate in all cases. On the back of this letter, you will find a Domestic Relations Screening Form, which is designed to help us determine if the case is appropriate for mediation. The ADR Program is required by the Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution to screen all domestic relations cases. We recommend each party complete his/her own form. **DO NOT FILE THIS FORM IN COURT**. Return it to the ADR office.

THESE ANSWERS ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND ARE NOT SUBJECT TO DISCOVERY. If the case is determined inappropriate for mediation, a Release will be filed with the Court stating only that the case is inappropriate for mediation.

Complete and honest answers are important for safety as well as for resolving your dispute as quickly and efficiently as possible. Complete the form immediately and return it to the above address.

Thank you in advance for your timely cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,

Casey C. Martinez
Director

DOMESTIC RELATIONS SCREENING FORM

Name: _____	County: _____
Date: _____	Case No: _____

1. Mediation most often occurs with both parties in the same physical or virtual room. If holding mediation virtually, are you comfortable seeing the other party on camera and with the other person seeing you on camera? If holding mediation in person, do you have any concerns about mediating in the same room with the other party? _____

2. Do you think that you would be able to talk about your needs/wants with the other party, either in the same room or in separate rooms? (If no, please explain) _____

3. Mediation is a process that helps parties plan for the future. Are you able to think about your future needs at this time? _____

4. Are you able to disagree with the other party without fear of what might happen later? _____

5. Are you still in the same house? _____
If yes, would you feel safe returning home after discussing the issues in your case? _____

6. Is there a T.P.O filed or any allegations of domestic violence in this case? _____

7. If a mediation session is scheduled, are there any safety concerns, which you would want us to know about before a session is set up? _____

Comments: _____

Would you like to discuss your situation with a member of our staff?

____Yes ____No

If yes, please provide a telephone number where you may be contacted: _____

****This information, as well as any further conversation, is strictly confidential.****

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