

MARITAL HISTORY:

Date you married the other parent: _____ Date you separated: _____

If never married to the other parent, did you live together? Yes No

If yes, date you began living together: _____ Date you stopped living together: _____

Are you presently married or currently in a relationship? Yes No

Court mediators are required to report suspected child abuse to the Child Abuse Registry.

Is there an open Juvenile Court case involving the children in this matter? Yes No

Has there been any reasonable suspicion of child abuse or neglect? Yes No

Is there any **current** involvement with Child Protective Services? Yes No

If yes, in what county? _____ Name of social worker: _____

Has there been **previous** involvement with Child Protective Services? Yes No

If yes, in what county? _____ Name of social worker? _____

Is there alcohol abuse by yourself or the other parent? Yes No

If yes, explain your concerns: _____

Is there drug abuse by yourself or the other parent? Yes No

If yes, explain your concerns: _____

Describe the frequency of your contact with your children:

What are you most interested in resolving today?

Signature: _____

Date: _____

CONTINUE ON NEXT PAGE



Superior Court of California

County of Orange, Lamoreaux Justice Center

Jan Mueller, Manager
Family Court Services

341 The City Drive, 5th Floor, Room 507
Orange CA 92863

INFORMED CONSENT

Case Name: _____

Case Number: _____

Please review carefully the information below.

Family Court mediation is required by California law (Family Code 3170) for all paternity filings, domestic violence restraining order filings, or divorce filings in which there are children and the parents have not filed a parenting plan with the Court. Mediation provides a neutral setting in which parents are assisted with creating a parenting plan that is in the best interest of their children. Mediation is offered at no cost in Orange County.

What issues are addressed in mediation?

The Family Court Services mediator can help parents formulate full or partial parenting plans which may include the following issues:

- Legal and physical custody of the children.
- The time each parent spends with the children, including regular time as well as holiday and vacation time.
- How the children will be transported between the parents.
- How much information each parent receives about the children, and how the information is exchanged.
- Safety considerations.

Family Court Services mediators only address issues of custody and parenting of children. Financial considerations including division of family property, child support, and spousal support are not addressed in Family Court Services mediation.

How much of the mediation session is confidential?

Under California Family Code 3177, mediation is private and confidential. Under Family Code 6303 (c), a person protected by a protective order may have a support person present in the mediation session at the discretion of the mediator. However, the support person is bound by the confidentiality of the mediation session. The mediator will not disclose what occurred in mediation with the following exceptions:

- If the mediator determines there is reasonable suspicion of danger to one of the parties or others (child abuse, suicide, homicide), the mediator is required to report the suspected abuse or threat to the appropriate agency.
- If there are reports of child abuse, the results of any child abuse records may be made available to the Court.
- Whole or partial parenting plans may be disclosed to the Court.
- The mediator may suggest that other services be offered to assist the parties to affect a resolution of the controversy before a hearing on the issues (Family Code 3183(b)).

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