

Family Mediation and Parent Coordination

Why Mediation? Mediation is a wonderful opportunity for both parents together to create a parenting road map when they will not live together. Mediation is a facilitated process with a skilled, experienced and mindful family mediator who will assist both parents to express their concerns and wishes for their children as they craft a joint parenting agreement. This is a wonderful process for parents who also live together and wish they and their children understand and take responsibilities for the betterment of the family unit.

The State of Florida mandates at least one hour of mediation to attempt a co-parenting agreement for child rearing and child custody before coming to Court for further assistance.

Why Parent Coordination? When the child rearing differences between the parents are great, where the parents are unwilling to compromise; where one parent is bullied; all possibilities within mediation, then Parent Coordination is a process to break the intransience. Parent Coordination permits the facilitator to act more as a coach, guard, and instructor for the parents in their challenges to reach an agreement for co-parenting. It is quite a visceral, soul searching and very emotional process for those who obstruct the means to agreement.

Mediation and Parent Coordination are services whose outcomes may need be reported to the Court.

It will benefit all parties to make earnest effort to complete a parenting agreement through one or the other service options.

Payment Instructions: Fees are on sliding scale based on total family income and must be prepaid.

| Verified Income | Fees |
|----------------------|----------------|
| above \$80,000 | \$275 per hour |
| \$60,000 to \$79,000 | \$225 per hour |
| \$40,000 - \$59,000 | \$175 per hour |
| \$30,000 - \$49,000 | \$125 per hour |
| Less than \$30,000 | \$ 95 per hour |

<u>Family Mediation</u>: Prepayment for 2 hours required. Additional hours will be billed per session and session fees must be paid in full before continuing further sessions. Payment in full required for hours prior to mediator providing the final mediated Parenting Plan and/or MSA (Marriage Settlement Agreement).

<u>Parenting Coordination</u>: Retainer of \$1200 required prior to scheduling first appointment. As hourly fees accumulate, retainer will be expended and coordinator or Toby Center will notify client of additional funds due to continue the services.

The Toby Center for Family Transitions, Inc.

Preserving Family Ties When Parents Choose to Separate®

Serving Florida's families since 2008 throughout South and Central Florida and Nationally Since 2019
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