

## SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

Department Title:	Family Services Department
Program Title:	Family Mediation Program
Manager:	Kendra Materasso
Hours of Operation:	Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Program Description:** Separation and divorce will bring many emotional and physical changes for families. When couples separate, they need to discuss many issues, including plans for parenting their children. When lawyers and the court system determine a family's future, parents may feel like bystanders in their own separation or divorce. Mediation is a way for parents to become active participants in resolving their conflicts. Through mediation, it is possible to come to an agreement that balances the interests of every family member and helps parents focus on the needs of the child(ren).

In mediation, the parties will discuss how parenting time is to be divided, what holidays are important to the family, communication and education decisions, extended family relationships, telephone access and communication, childcare providers, changes to the parenting schedule and parents' courtesies to each other, among other things. If an agreement is reached in mediation, a written agreement is prepared by the mediator and provided to each party and the court.

Ultimately, the goal of mediation is to achieve the best possible outcome for children and families.

Accessible Services and Support: Six contact mediators are available.

## **Summary of Services**

The year the Family Mediation Program started at the Second Judicial District Court	1991
Average number of mediations per month	48
Are mediation discussions confidential	Yes

Contact us: 775-328-3298

To assist parents with resolving conflicts during and after separation or divorce by working out solutions for custody and visitation which supports a child's ongoing relationship with both parents.