



Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Program Piedmont Judicial Circuit

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Dear Party/Attorney,

Alternative Dispute Resolution (“ADR”) provides an opportunity to meet with a trained neutral third party who helps facilitate effective communication. The neutral’s role is to assist the parties in working toward a fair, reasonable, and mutually acceptable resolution of their legal issues and concerns.

Please note that ADR may not be appropriate in all cases. To make this determination, the Domestic Relations Initiation Form includes a screening section. The Piedmont Circuit ADR Program, in compliance with the Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution, is required to screen all domestic relations cases. Each party must complete their own screening form.

The form should be completed and returned to this office **before mediation is scheduled**. If preferred, the form may be completed online at: www.piedmontsuperiorcourt.org. If the form is not received in advance, the neutral will conduct the screening at the mediation session, and the additional time required will be billed to the parties. Once mediation begins, all fees are divided equally between the parties.

Confidentiality:

All answers are confidential and are not subject to discovery. If ADR is determined to be inappropriate, the Court will be notified only that the case is not suitable for ADR.

Your complete and honest answers are essential — both for ensuring safety and for resolving your dispute as efficiently as possible. Please complete the entire form promptly and return it to the email address provided above.

We appreciate your cooperation. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

DOMESTIC RELATIONS SCREENING FORM

Party Name: _____

Case No: _____

If you are concerned about the privacy of your responses or if you prefer to answer the questions by telephone, please call 706-387-6400. If you prefer, this form may be completed online at: www.piedmontsuperiorcourt.org.

1. Have you ever applied for or been granted a protective order, restraining order or stalking order against the other party? ☐ Yes ☐ No. If yes, please explain. _____

2. Is the Division of Family and Children Services (DFCS) and/or Adult Protective Services (APS) involved in this case? ☐ Yes ☐ No. If yes, please explain. _____

3. Has the other party ever been arrested for an act of violence or making threats against another person? ☐ Yes ☐ No. If yes, please explain. _____

4. Are you afraid of the other party? ☐ Yes ☐ No. If yes, please explain. _____

5. Do you have any concerns for your safety when the other party does not get his/her way? ☐ Yes ☐ No. If yes, please explain. _____

6. Has the other party ever tried or threatened during the course of the relationship to:

Harm you ☐ Yes ☐ No

Harm self ☐ Yes ☐ No

Harm the children ☐ Yes ☐ No

Harm family pets ☐ Yes ☐ No

Harm other family members ☐ Yes ☐ No

Use a weapon to harm or intimidate you or others ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes to any of the above, please explain. _____

7. Are you still living in the same house with the opposing party? ☐ Yes ☐ No. If yes, do you think you would feel safe in returning home after discussing the issues in your case in mediation? ☐ Yes ☐ No. If no, please explain. _____

8. Are there any other concerns about safety? ☐ Yes ☐ No. If yes, please explain. _____

Any additional information you need to provide may be submitted on an additional sheet. Should further screening be needed, please provide a telephone number where you (the party) may be contacted: (_____)_____-_____

Signature

Typed/printed name & date