



# NEWS RELEASE

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA • COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
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## **San Diego Superior Court Seeking New Applicants for Civil Mediation Program**

The California Superior Court of San Diego County is reopening membership to its court-referred civil mediation program. The Court will be seeking new applicants from March 1 through May 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Civil Mediation Program is a non-binding process in which a trained mediator:

- Facilitates communication between disputants, and
- Assists parties in reaching a mutually acceptable resolution of all or part of their dispute.

The San Diego Superior Court Civil Mediation Program is designed to assist parties with the early resolution of their dispute. Parties may stipulate to mediation before or at the Case Management Conference, held approximately 150 days after filing. The court maintains a panel of approved mediators that meet specific qualifications and who adhere to court approved mediator ethics.

Applicants must meet all training, experience, ethical and court oversight requirements.

Applicants must have mediated at least eight cases over the past three years with sessions that lasted at least two hours. Restrictions apply to some types of cases. Panel mediators agree to charge the parties \$150 per hour for the first two hours and their individual rates thereafter.

Qualifying applicants will have a college degree, a mediation practice or primary place of business within the county, and a total of 30 hours of completed mediator training, including at least one basic course consisting of ten hours of classroom training and 10 hours of experiential training. Additional information concerning panel qualifications and continuing requirements,

including the requirement to file a Certificate of Insurance with the Court by January 15 of each year or to waive any and all claims against the Superior Court in connection with mediating court-referred mediations, may be found in the revised Mediator Manual on the Court's website at [www.sandiego.courts.ca.gov/superior/ADR](http://www.sandiego.courts.ca.gov/superior/ADR).

Applications and the revised Mediator Manual may be obtained from the Court's website, from the program office at (619) 531-8908 (Central) or from the branch locations.

The court will notify successful individuals by May 31, 2006 and add them to the existing roster after a mandatory orientation.

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