

The Mediation Program

The Dispute Resolution Programs Act of 1986 (DRPA) provides funding of the Mediation Program at the Fair Housing Council of Orange County. The purpose of the DRPA is to encourage the use of local dispute resolution services as an alternative to formal court proceedings.

Why use mediation? — Conflicts are immediately resolved, rather than having the disputants wait for the mandatory period (up to six months) before an initial civil hearing date is scheduled. There are no out-of-pocket costs for the disputant and respondent since mediation services at the Fair Housing Council of Orange County are free. On the other hand, litigation may involve attorney fees and civil filing fees that may include a filing fee, motion fee(s), and an answer fee. Additionally, there is no need for disputants to take valuable time off from work in order to get their conflict resolved.

Mediation services can be used to settle various types of disputes

and is often more time efficient, cost effective, and less stressful than traditional court proceedings.



**FAIR HOUSING COUNCIL
OF ORANGE COUNTY**

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**Dispute Resolution
Service**

**Fair Housing Council
of Orange County**

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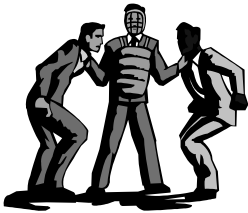
Fair Housing Council's DISPUTE RESOLUTION SERVICE

The Fair Housing Council of Orange County has been servicing the County of Orange for over twenty years. In addition to providing counseling in the area of landlord/tenant rights, the Fair Housing Council also provides mediation/conciliation services.

Mediations and conciliations are confidential and provide disputants with an alternative to the costly, time consuming court system.

Mediation and conciliation are voluntary processes. Both parties meet with a neutral third party to help resolve the dispute and arrive at a mutually satisfactory agreement.

All of Fair Housing Council's mediators are trained professionals, certified through the state's DRPA program.



The Fair Housing Council is a DRPA agency funded through the County of Orange to provide mediation/conciliation services to the residents of Orange County.

There is no charge to qualified clients for any of the services provided by the FAIR HOUSING COUNCIL OF ORANGE COUNTY.

The Mediation Process

The mediation process begins when you first contact our office. Our intake specialist will listen to your problem and ask for information about the dispute.

We then contact the other party to ask for their participation. All parties must agree to participate. Arrangements will then be made for you and the other party to meet with the mediator.

During the mediation, the mediator will encourage each side to offer solutions to the dispute. The mediator will help facilitate the communication between the parties and assist the parties through the negotiation process.

The mediator does not decide who is right or assess blame. The mediator will help the parties reach a fair and reasonable solution

Once the parties reach an agreement, the mediator writes the terms of the agreement and all parties sign the agreement.

Every kind of peaceful cooperation among men is primarily based on mutual trust and only secondarily on institutions such as courts of justice and police.

TYPES OF DISPUTES

LANDLORD TENANT

- Repairs
- Non-Payment of rent
- Evictions
- Security Deposits
- Roommate Disputes
- Noise Complaints
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NEIGHBOR /NEIGHBOR

- Animal Noise Complaints
- Peace and Quiet Disputes
- Use of Common Property Disputes
- Condominium Association Disputes
- Parking

OTHER

We also handle employer/employee, consumer/merchant, debtor/creditor, accident, and harassment disputes as long as both parties are willing to mediate.

INTER-ETHNIC DISPUTES

* We have certified mediators fluent in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

IF YOU FEEL YOUR MATTER
CAN BE RESOLVED BY USING
OUR SERVICES, PLEASE CALL
714/569.0823



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