



MEDIATION AND CONFIDENTIALITY “MAC” AGREEMENT
Southern California Family Mediation Inc.

By signing this mediation and confidentiality agreement, I hereby understand and agree that:

- 1. Mediation may take until 4:30pm.**
- 2. Mediation is confidential.** Mediation communications are confidential. A mediator may not be subpoenaed to testify.
 - a. If a party raises new, unique allegations, the mediator(s) will pause or stop the mediation and refer the parties to their attorneys for further instructions.
 - b. If you share something private with the mediator(s) that you do not want the other side to know, please make that clear to the mediator(s), otherwise the mediator(s) will use their discretion.
 - c. We are a teaching and learning nonprofit organization. Students or others may observe, bound by the rules of mediation confidentiality.
- 3. Mediation is voluntary.**
 - a. A Court may order parties to appear in good faith for mediation. However, the parties control if there will be an agreement and what their agreement will be (within what the Court will allow).
 - b. The Court may be informed who appeared, but mediators don't make recommendations to the Court.
 - c. Courts decide safety issues. Mediation cannot change an order of a Court.
 - d. A mediator may withdraw from a mediation. A parent may request a mediator withdraw from a mediation, and may contact SCFM leadership at: 818-575-6900 or mediation@socalfm.org.
- 4. A mediator cannot give legal advice.** Mediators do not judge you or decide for you. Mediators will suggest solutions, but a mediator cannot decide the outcome. Obtain legal advice from your attorney.
- 5. Participation:**
 - a. Your attorney is welcome to participate, but is not required. You may consult with your attorney.
 - b. To avoid involving children in adult conflicts, mediators will attempt to reach the child's attorney.
 - c. Mediator(s) may allow support persons to attend, but they may not decide the outcome (agreement).
- 6. An agreement reached by the parties** in mediation can be provided to the attorneys on the case, for discussion and review, signing, and potentially for submission to a Court.
- 7. A mediated agreement** does not go into effect until it is approved by a Court, unless otherwise stated in writing. Refer to your attorney for additional specific details.

I hereby understand and agree to all of the above rules and conditions to mediate.

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____