

Mediation Talking Points

On a separate sheet of paper, answer the questions outlined below to formulate mediation talking points. Then use the mediation talking points, to make sure your concerns are addressed through the mediation process.

1. Do you have a clear understanding of the mediation process?
2. What is important in my case?
3. What problems have arisen? How can the problems be fixed?
 - a. Don't focus on the problems; focus on finding solutions to the problems.
 - b. Often, if a specific incident is pointed to during mediation rather than just addressing the solution, a parent may feel like they are being personally attacked. A personal attack will likely breakdown the mediation process and a resolution will not be obtained.
4. What decisions should be made jointly? What information should be shared?
5. What holidays do I want to celebrate? When should the holidays start and end?
6. Do I want to a vacation provision in the Parenting Plan? If vacation is taken, what information should be provided?
7. What weekly timeshare is in the best interest of the child(ren)? Why is the schedule in the child(ren)'s best interest?
8. How and where should exchanges occur?
9. What should occur in an emergency involving the child?
10. How should communication occur with the other parent? What is the most effective format?
11. What should happen if either parent is unavailable to care for the child(ren)?

Disclaimer: This is not an exhaustive list and should only be used as a tool. Use of this form should not be construed as legal advice. Contact an attorney to discuss your legal options and questions, remember that Roberts Stoffel Family Law Group offers free in-office consultations to discuss these and other related legal issues. Also, before signing any agreement reached through mediation, consult with a qualified attorney.