

DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMISSION



NEWS AND UPDATES

WWW.NCDRC.ORG

August 2019

EMAIL: DRCMediators@nccourts.org

919-890-1415

UPGRADES MADE TO THE 2019-20 RENEWAL APPLICATION AND CME SELF REPORTING

The 2019-20 Renewal Period began on July 1, 2019. Thank you to all mediators who have already renewed their certifications! For those of you who have not renewed as of yet, mediators are now able to self-report their CME when completing their renewal application. Because of this change, staff will no longer be accepting the CME Self Reporting Form. **Inactive mediators or newly certified mediators are not required to complete two hours of CME, however you must complete the renewal application and pay the fee(s). (If you were certified after July 1, 2019, you are not required to complete a renewal application or pay any additional fees.)**

Renewal instructions for mediators who have not submitted or completed CME:

After a mediator has completed two hours of CME, s/he will log in to their renewal application on before September 30, 2019, to complete their application. At bottom of the form click on the CME course(s) taken for FY 2019/20. You must enter two or more hours of CME for the application to be accepted. Once the application is accepted, the mediator can then update their profile, pay the fees by credit card, or print out their invoice to mail in payment. You will not be able to submit your application until you have recorded two hours of CME.

If you still have not completed your two hours of required CME, please visit the Commission's [Current CME Opportunities page](#). **Please note, NOT all NCBA CLE courses related to mediation qualify for CME.**

Staff understands that the renewal process can sometimes be confusing, we hope these new changes will make the renewal process a quick and easy process. The renewal period ends on September 30, 2019. All Renewal Applications and payments received after September 30, will be charged a \$30.00 late fee. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact staff.

COMMISSION SEEKS COMMENT

At the recent August 9, 2019, meeting, the Commission approved changes to the below documents. All items have been posted to the [Commission Seeks Comment webpage](#). **Comments will be accepted until September 20, 2019.** Send all comments to DRCMediators@nccourts.org.

DRC Guidelines for Issuing Provisional Pretraining Approvals, [MSC Provisional Pretraining Packet](#) and [FFS Provisional Pretraining Packet](#). The packets were drafted to allow NCDRC staff to put the pretraining request to the attention of the chair for their review. This change would allow the chair of the Mediator Certification and Training Committee to make a recommendation of an application or refer the matter to the full committee.

[Standard III Confidentiality](#) The submitted change will allow the mediator's staff to fall within the "cone of confidentiality" when handling documents from a mediation.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION WEEK 2019!

The Dispute Resolution Commission is planning its annual celebration of Conflict Resolution Week, **October 13-19, 2019**. The celebration will begin on Tuesday, October 15, at the Mecklenburg County Bar & Foundation Center, and move to the North Carolina Judicial Center for Thursday and Friday, October 17-18. This year's event will include a reception on Thursday, October 17th, featuring an appearance by Chief Justice Cheri Beasley, as well as several CME/CLE training courses for certified mediators. A light lunch will be provided at the reception on Thursday, for those who RSVP. Details on each day's events are below. Please see the instructions to register for Tuesday's Program (fees are associated with the Tuesday program). Please email DRCMediators@nccourts.org, to register for Thursday and Friday events (all course and events are free).

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

When the Gloves Come Off

Bar & Foundation Center, 2850 Zebulon Ave., Charlotte, NC 28208

Program Planner: Nancy Black Norelli, *Norelli Savage Law*. Chair, Dispute Resolution Section, NCBA 2018 – 2019. *Ex officio* Member, Dispute Resolution Commission 2018 – 2019.

10 a.m. – 11 a.m.: Mediation Forms – Forms for Everything. 1 hour CLE/CME credit.

Tara Kozlowski, Executive Director, *Dispute Resolution Commission*

11 a.m. – 12 p.m.: Panel Discussion – How to Handle Tough Situations in Mediation. 1 hour CLE/CM credit.

Tara Kozlowski, Executive Director, *Dispute Resolution Commission*

The Honorable Yvonne M. Evans, Retired Superior Court Judge, and Commissioner, *Dispute Resolution Commission*

Melvin Wright, Executive Director, Chief Justice's *Commission on Professionalism* and Certified MSC Mediator

Break/Lunch Included

12:15 p.m.—1:15 p.m.: Introduction to Collaborative Law. 1 hour CLE credit.

John Sarratt, NC Attorney, Certified MSC Mediator

Registration

Online: www.MeckBarCLE.org • Phone: 704/ 375-8624 • Fax: 704/ 333-6209

Mail: MCB/CLE Contracts, 2850 Zebulon Avenue, Charlotte, NC 28208

Thursday, October 17, 2019

North Carolina Judicial Center

901 Corporate Center Dr., Raleigh, NC 27607

8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.: Mediation Rules from a Mediator's Point of View: The Do's and Don'ts. 1 hour CLE/CME credit.

Michael McDaniel, NC Attorney, Certified MSC Mediator

8:45 a.m. — 9:45 a.m.: Implications of Technology and Social Media for Domestic Violence and Family Court Cases.

1 hour CLE credit.

Kevin Dorsey, Professional Liaison OurFamilyWizard®

9:45 a.m. — 10:45 a.m.: When Things Go Wrong! 1 hour ethics CLE/CME credit.

The Honorable William Freeman, Retired District Court and Superior Court Judge, Commissioner and Chair of the *NC State Ethics Commission*, and Certified MSC Mediator

Melvin Wright, Executive Director, Chief Justice's *Commission on Professionalism* and Certified MSC Mediator

Tara Kozlowski, Executive Director, *Dispute Resolution Commission*

11:00 a.m. — 12:30 a.m.: Reception featuring Chief Justice Beasley.

Light lunch will be provided to those who RSVP.

12:30 p.m. — 1:30 p.m.: How Can Technology Help Me Be A Better Mediator? 1 hour technology CLE credit.

Ketan Soni, NC Attorney, Certified MSC and FFS Mediator

1:30 p.m.. — 3:30 p.m.: Civil Response To Active Shooter Training.

Stephen Baldwin and Addison Friedman, Judicial Security Inspectors with NC, Deputy US Marshals

CONFLICT RESOLUTION WEEK 2019! CONTINUED

Friday, October 18, 2019
North Carolina Judicial Center
901 Corporate Center Dr., Raleigh, NC 27607

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.: Maintaining the Capacity to Care, Part 1: Compassion Fatigue

Walter Johnson, Professional Trainer and NC Certified Parent Educator with Children's Home Society of NC.

This program is limited to 10 available spots, first come first serve! Please email DRCMediators@nccourts.org, to register.

Conflict Resolution Week is proudly being brought to you by:
The Dispute Resolution Section of the North Carolina Bar Association,
N.C. AOC Custody Mediation, N.C. Dispute Resolution Commission,
and the Mecklenburg County Bar.



Robert A. Ponton, Jr.

Susan Hicks, vice chair, presented Robert A. Ponton, Jr., with an Appreciation Plaque at the recent August 2019 Commission Retreat. Mr. Ponton Served on the DRC from 2013—2019.

Update to items recently posted for comment

Standard VII— Conflict of Interest for Mediators. After multiple meetings, long discussions and multiple rewrites of the Standard, the Standards and Advisory Opinions Committee proposed the current Standard VII, as written, remain in effect. The committee decided to “pull” the proposed changes to the Standard and instead will be providing an Advisory Opinion relating to this issue. The AO will be forthcoming.

The Commission recently approved changes to **FFS Rule 2** and **FFS Rule 8**. Consistency and Quality. To bring all those who mediate mandatory court ordered programs under the purview of the DRC, to ensure all mediators would be bound to same rules and standards. All mediators should have proper training, and be competent in the services they perform. Provide honor and integrity to the program, courts and the Commission. These changes will be forwarded to the Supreme Court for adoption in early 2020.



BE ON THE LOOKOUT

Rules and Standards Submitted to the Supreme Court

Earlier this year Commission staff submitted amended Program Rules, DRC Rules and The Standards of Conduct to the Supreme Court of North Carolina. Once staff has received the newly amended Rules/Standards, mediators will receive copies via email.

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