

**COLORADO JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT**  
*Office of Dispute Resolution*

ODR Policies and Procedures Manual  
Subject: **Foundations of Mediation: Empowerment**

Date: July 1, 2011

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**EMPOWERMENT**

1. ODR Neutrals should be sensitive to power imbalances and should take appropriate steps to assure that parties are aware of resources available to minimize a power imbalance.
2. If a Neutral determines that a power imbalance renders the mediation inappropriate, the Neutral may consider termination of the mediation session.
3. It is recommended that termination of a mediation session be articulated as the decision of the Neutral as opposed to attributing the request to terminate to a specific party.