



SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
ADAMS COUNTY & THE CITY AND COUNTY OF BROOMFIELD
ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE CHIEF JUDGE

Issued May 29, 2020

ORDER MANDATING MEDIATION FOR ALL ADAMS COUNTY COURT CIVIL MONETARY CASES EXCLUDING FORCIBLE ENTRY & DETAINER CASES, OR CASES OTHERWISE EXEMPTED BY THE COURT.

Mediation is highly effective in County Court civil cases, such as monetary collection disputes. Here, one or both parties are often unrepresented and often simply need a neutral party to bring them together to discuss settling their dispute.

Pursuant to Chief Justice Directive 95-01 "Authority and Responsibility of Chief Judges," the undersigned, in her capacity of Chief Judge of the 17th Judicial District, hereby mandates mediation with a mediator following the filing of an answer by the defendant in an Adams County Court Civil monetary case, excluding Forcible Entry & Detainer cases, or cases otherwise exempted by the Court.

GENERAL MEDIATION REQUIREMENTS:

Plaintiff shall contact defendant to discuss scheduling of mediation after an answer is filed. Documented failure by defendant to cooperate with plaintiff in arranging mediation may result in the court entering default judgment against defendant for the relief requested in the plaintiff's complaint.

Each party will be responsible for choosing the mediator, for scheduling the mediation session with the mediator and for paying for the mediation session at the rate required by the mediator and in compliance with the payment requirements of the mediator, of which the court has no control over.

The parties may select a private mediator agreed to by both the plaintiff and defendant. For a list of private mediators, please visit: Mediation Association of Colorado (the MAC) or call (303) 322-9275.

If the parties cannot agree on a private mediator, The Office of Dispute Resolution (ODR) (www.coloradoODR.org) shall be used. ODR refers parties to mediation services that cost \$60 per party/per hour, with a minimum of two (2) hours.

If a party is unable to pay, they may request payment assistance through ODR by filing a JDF211 form found at www.coloradoODR.org and return that completed form to ODR at odrmediations@judicial.state.co.us (720-625-5933-fax) or 1300 Broadway, Suite 1200, Denver, CO 80203 (mail only, no walk ins).

A mediation session shall be scheduled by the parties with the agreed upon mediator within 35 days of the filing of the answer and mediation shall be completed no more than 75 days after defendant's answer was filed. Parties split cost of mediation.

Within five (5) days of scheduling of mediation, Plaintiff shall file a brief status report stating the date, time and place of the medication so the court can set an appropriate non-appearance status review.

If one party fails to appear for mediation, the appearing party must notify the court via Notice and Motion for Default who may then enter judgment on behalf of the complying party and award costs including the cost of mediation.

If mediation is successful, the plaintiff must file a fully signed Stipulation (JDF 75) and an Order Re: Stipulation (JDF 106) with the court for approval within five (5) days of the mediation session. If Court signs the Order, the case will close.

If mediation is not successful, the plaintiff shall file Notice of Completion of Mediation and request a court hearing within five (5) days of the completion of mediation after which the court will set the matter for trial.

Failure of either side to appear for a scheduled mediation may well result in the Court entering default judgment against the non-appearing party.

SO ORDERED this 29th day of May, 2020.

By the COURT,



Emily E. Anderson
Chief Judge
Seventeenth Judicial District