

Quick Guide: What Happens in Mediation?



What is the Process, and What Does the Mediator Do? Mediation is a collaborative process focused on finding a resolution all parties can accept, rather than deciding who is "right" or "wrong."

- The mediator is a neutral professional with expertise in real estate and mediation techniques.
- Their role is to encourage productive communication, maintain respectful dialogue, and guide the parties toward resolution.
- Mediators provide a safe space for open discussion, helping reduce tension and focus on solutions.

How Does Mediation Work?

- **Scheduling:** The parties and mediator agree on a date. Sessions are typically scheduled for four hours and may be conducted online (e.g., via Zoom) or in person.
- **Separate Discussions:** Parties may meet in separate rooms or virtual breakout sessions for some or all of the mediation, allowing the mediator to present and refine proposals confidentially.
- **Resolution:** If an agreement is reached, the mediator may assist in drafting a written settlement for both parties to sign.
- **No Resolution:** If no resolution is reached, the mediator may recommend additional sessions. While this may involve extra cost, it is still far less expensive than arbitration or litigation.

If no resolution is reached, then arbitration may be the next step depending upon the requirements of your agreement.