



# New York State Unified Court System

New York State Supreme Court, Civil Term • 12th Judicial District (Bronx County)

**Hon. Joseph Capella**

Administrative Judge for Civil Matters

**Lakisha C. Brown**

Chief Clerk VII

Dear Attorney/Litigant:

This Court has created a Mediation Program which provides 90 minutes of free mediation with a certified mediator for those parties who want to take advantage of an alternative to traditional litigation. You are receiving this letter because you have a case pending in the Bronx Supreme Court Matrimonial Division and may be eligible for the program. However due to the guidelines, there are some matters which may not be referred to mediation. The mediation is held in person or virtually using computer conference technology such as Microsoft Teams. If you are unable to resolve your dispute during the initial free 90-minute session, you may continue at a rate agreed upon beforehand with the mediator. If you are unable to resolve your matter in mediation, the case is restored to the Court calendar for further proceedings.

Why mediate?

Mediation offers the following benefits:

- (1) Involves parties actively in resolving their own issues
- (2) Improves parties' satisfaction with the process
- (3) Speeds settlement
- (4) Reduces stress
- (5) Saves Money
- (6) Improves communication
- (7) Improves relationships
- (8) Increases compliance with agreements

The court encourages you to enroll in our mediation program to amicably resolve disputes in an expeditious manner. However, acceptance into the program requires that both parties voluntarily submit their consent.

If both parties consent to mediation, please complete the attached consent form and email it to [BXSUPADRMAT@nycourts.gov](mailto:BXSUPADRMAT@nycourts.gov).