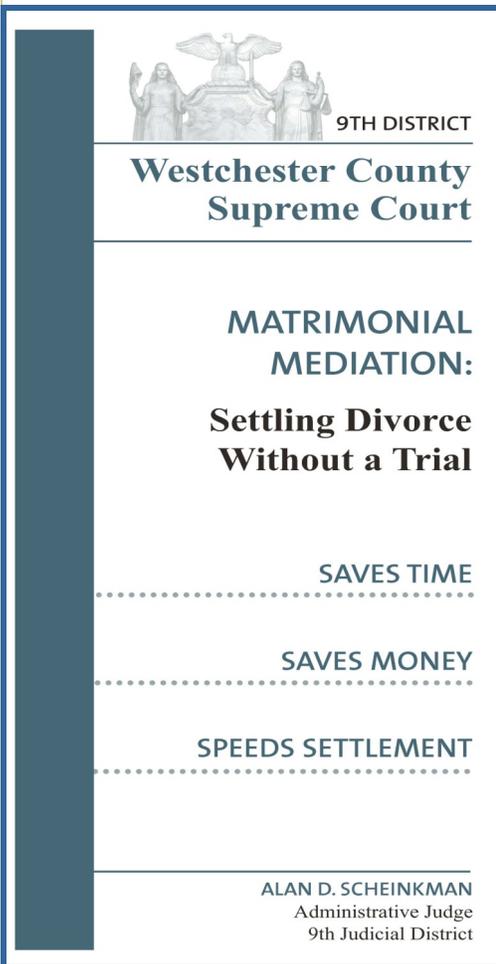


Matrimonial Mediation for Settling Divorce Cases Now Offered in Westchester Supreme

Divorce proceedings can be lengthy, costly, and acrimonious. But things could be different. Resolving a divorce using mediation saves time, money, and often results in better compliance with agreements. It can also reduce the number of pending matrimonial cases awaiting trial. Matrimonial Mediation is now being promoted at Westchester Supreme with the distribution of a newly designed brochure. It will be expanded to other courts in the district.



A confidential process where a neutral, experienced mediator helps parties identify issues and communicate with each other, Matrimonial Mediation can lead to an agreement that can be incorporated into a divorce judgment. Mediation emphasizes common ground and cooperation. If it isn't successful, the parties are no worse off—they can still go to trial.

Mediation is offered free for the first 90 minute session. If additional sessions are scheduled by the parties, a fee arrangement must be made in advance with the mediator, who is encouraged to take the parties' financial situation into account. Both parties must agree to mediation, and while sessions can be with or without individual attorneys, parties are encouraged to seek legal advice from their lawyers throughout the process.

Mediation is not appropriate in all situations. It is not used, for example, in cases of child abuse, domestic violence, or where a severe power imbalance impacts a party from expressing what is in his or her best interest.

Mediators are chosen from a Roster of Neutrals. These are individuals who have completed 60 hours of family mediation training and have at least 4 years of experience including 250 hours of face-to-face mediation with clients. The mediator does not decide who is right or wrong, does not impose solutions, and does not give legal advice.

For more information on Matrimonial Mediation and who to contact, click [here](#).