

Dear Counsel/Litigant:

If you have a case pending in Supreme Court, Civil/Commercial Division for the Seventh Judicial District, this Court has a free Mediation Program that provides full mediation at no cost. The mediations are conducted by Court Mediators Adrian J. Burke, Esq. and Amy L. DiFranco, Esq. Everything that takes place during the mediation is confidential. All mediations at this time are taking place via computer conference technology, namely Microsoft Teams. If you are ultimately unable to resolve your matter in mediation, the case is simply restored to the Court's calendar.

Why Mediate?

Mediation offers the following benefits:

1. Allows the parties to maintain control over the outcome of their claims
2. Improves parties' satisfaction with the process
3. Saves money
4. Speeds settlement and resolution of litigation

The Court system strongly encourages you to mediate your case at the earliest possible time. Court Mediation requires that all parties voluntarily consent to be referred to mediation. In addition to obtaining a referral to mediation through an Order of Referral to Mediation entered by the assigned judge, we are now offering access to Court Mediation where the parties execute and file the attached Consent to Mediate. When the Consent is executed and filed, your case will be accepted into Court Mediation. If a Consent is not filed, the case will remain with the assigned judge.

If all parties agree to try mediation, simply complete the attached Consent form, upload it to NYSCEF and email it to adifranc@nycourts.gov and ADR-7JD@nycourts.gov. A Court Mediator will then contact you to proceed with the mediation.

For more information, please contact Amy L. DiFranco at adifranc@nycourtst.gov or (585) 371-3680.

**SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT MEDIATION PROGRAM'S
AGREEMENT TO MEDIATE - VOLUNTARY CONSENT FORM**

Case Name: _____

Index Number: _____ County: _____

1. We have discussed with our respective clients and with opposing counsel the option to engage in the Court's Mediation Program.
2. Our clients wish to engage in the Court's Mediation Program at this time.
3. We request that this case be referred to the Seventh Judicial District's Court Mediation Program.
4. We understand that all Orders issued by this Court in this matter are hereby stayed pending mediation unless otherwise ordered by the Court.

Counsel for Plaintiff _____:

Print and Sign: _____

Firm Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel. No.: _____

Email: _____

Counsel for Defendant _____:

Print and Sign: _____

Firm Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel. No.: _____

Email: _____

[ADD ADDITIONAL PARTIES/COUNSEL IF NECESSARY]

Upload this form to NYSCEF and email it to adifranc@nycourts.gov and ADR-7JD@nycourts.gov. A Court Mediator will then contact you to proceed with the mediation.