



**NEIGHBORHOOD
MEDIATION CENTER**
200 Ridge St., #230 ■ Reno, NV 89501

The Mediation Monitor Issue 11

January—March 2016

Empowering people and organizations with alternative methods for resolving disputes

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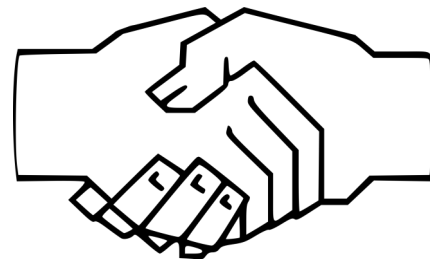
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A Handshake in Mediation Means



In case you missed it, there was an interesting article at ACR.com in February discussing the court enforcement of verbal settlements made during court-appointed mediation, and those settlements confirmed with a handshake. The article stated that the ruling from the Court came about as the result of a handshake on a settlement reached in principle minutes before one of the parties had leave for the airport. The parties were unable to draw up an agreement at the time, but within hours of the mediation, the mediator sent an email to both parties detailing the terms of the agreement and informed the parties that the Court would be notified that a settlement had been reached. Unfortunately, a few days after the mediation, one of the parties told the other side and the mediator that they did not agree with the terms of the settlement and subsequently refused to sign a written agreement. The judge's finding in the case stated that "...settlement agreements reached through mediation are as binding as those reached during litigation." The Court also found that oral settlements are enforceable and handshakes are a confirmation that settlement terms are understood.



By Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP
February, 2016 ACR

Inside this issue:

- A Handshake in Mediation Means Something...** 1
- NMC Beginning Mediation Training** 2
- ACR Annual Conference**
- NDRC Annual Training** 3
- From the Program Director's Corner** 4
- International Women's Day** 5
- 2015 Women Peace Makers**

**Beginning
Mediation
Training
April 19-23,
2016
UNR
Redfield**



Training will be held at the Redfield Campus at 18600 Wedge Pkwy, Bldg. "A", Rm. 221 from April 19 - 23, 2016 (Tue- Sat, 8am - 5pm) Units: 4.0 CEUs
Note: Early Registration fee is \$1,150 through March 18, 2016. Registration fee after March 18, 2016 is \$1,350.
Deadline to register for course is April 8, 2016.
Please call Extended Studies (775-784-4062) after April 8 to ensure there are still seats remaining. \$20 fee assessed for optional CEUs.

The Neighborhood Mediation Center and Trainers Claudia Wahl and Monica Kales will present a 40-hour, skill based, facilitative mediation training through the UNR Extended Studies program in April 2016. Participants will learn how to analyze, address and manage conflict effectively by gaining a valuable education in mediation and conflict resolution. Mediators come from a wide variety of backgrounds and use their skills in business, education, counseling, law and law enforcement, social services, ministry, and as conflict resolution professionals. You can find the link to register for the Beginning Mediation Training class on the NMC website under the training tab www.mediatenmc.org.

 **Principles
into Practice 2016**
ACR ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Sept. 28-Oct. 1 ■ Baltimore, MD

**ACR
Conference
Update**
www.acrnet.org/

Add this conference to your calendar!

Date: May 6, 2016

8:30a.m.-4:30p.m.

Register 8:00-

8:30am

SCHEDULE

8:30-9:00a.m.

Welcome, Overview of Session, and Topic Intro.

9:00-10:30a.m.

Do you Really Know

Your

Mind?

10:30-10:45a.m.

BREAK

10:45-12:00p.m.

Stress, Trauma and Conquering Triggers.

12:00-1:00p.m.

LUNCH PROVIDED

1:00-2:30p.m.

Memory, Perception and Contemplative Practices.

2:30-2:45p.m.

BREAK

2:45-4:00p.m.

Share the Love ~ Help your Clients.

4:00-4:30pm.

Questions, Evaluations

Nevada Dispute Resolution Coalition



Advanced Mediation Training Brain Science and Mediation Skills

The more we learn about neuroscience, the more we understand how emotions are tied to decision-making, moods and health. Throughout this workshop, you'll experience learning modules and exercises that will help you understand what goes on in the human brain during conflict. You'll also discover how each of us can master techniques to return to a balanced thinking state more quickly so that we can be more effective in resolving conflict.

SPEAKERS: ELISE CHAMBERS & ANNA BERGREEN

Elise is the Program Director of the Conflict Resolution Center of Minnesota, an attorney, a Qualified Neutral and an adjunct professor at the University of Minnesota School of Law. Elise has developed workshops and trainings in mediation, communication skills, brain science, youth mentoring, community leadership and group facilitation processes. Recently, Elise presented at the 2015 ACR Conference in Reno. Anna Bergreen is an experienced mediator and trainer and serves as the Development Director of the Conflict Resolution Center of Minnesota.

TO REGISTER:

Go to the NDRC Website
<http://www.nvdr.org/>.

Click on the Training Tab, Future Trainings and download the Registration Form

Mail to: P.O. BOX 2164

Reno, NV 89505

CONTACT:

NDRC at 775-813-0838

Email: training@nvdr.org

Seeking Approval for 6 Hrs. of CLE/CEU Credit

◆ The Nevada Board of Continuing Legal Education; ◆ Nevada State Board of Examiners for Social Workers ◆ Nevada State Board of Examiners for Marriage and Family Therapists ◆ Nevada State Board of Psychological Examiners

Registration Fees:

Early Registration:

Postmarked by April 15, 2016

NDRC Members \$150

Non-Members \$200

Postmarked between April 16-May 5 2016*

**No NDRC member discount*

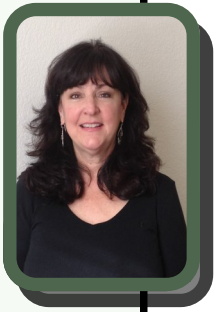
NDRC Membership:

General Member \$20

Practitioner \$40

Advanced Practitioner \$70

All membership categories are eligible for the early registration discount



*From the Program Director's
Corner.....*

Self-Determination

The Neighborhood Mediation Center and the Nevada Dispute Resolution Coalition held a joint mediator development discussion group session on February 23. The topic was "Self-Determination." Self-Determination is the first standard in the Model Standards of Conduct for Mediators. The Model Standards were adopted in 2005 by the American Arbitration Association, the American Bar Association and the Association for Conflict Resolution. Self-determination is defined in the standard as "the act of coming to a voluntary, un-coerced decision in which each party makes free and informed choices as to process and outcome."

The evening involved small group role play in which attendees acted as either one of two parties or one of two co-mediators. The role play was structured to make it quite difficult for mediators to allow participant self-determination. It involved a childless, divorcing couple who were also principals in a software design company they had built together. They had acquired considerable joint personal and business assets. One of the parties was to essentially "roll-over" with regard to what they expected out of a property settlement, content to let the other party have the bulk of the assets. This proved very difficult on several levels for the mediators to allow self-determination.

The small group activity was followed by whole group discussion and de-brief. The response from those who attended the session was overwhelmingly positive. It provided practice with a situation that can be encountered in any mediation scenario where one party seems just too agreeable. This can happen for a variety of reasons. It played with the mediators' sense of fairness and made it very difficult to remain impartial. Impartiality is the second Model Standard and is fundamental to mediation. It's challenging to check one's own sense of "right" at the door, and proceed with an obligation to remain unbiased while, at the same time, ensure to the extent possible that parties are making informed, un-coerced, voluntary decisions.

Here are a few comments provided on the feedback forms from the evening:

Keep Doing: "role plays", "... an excellent meeting with a provocative role play and good discussion", "... excellent exercise for a difficult mediation", "... real-life role playing is great"

Personal Take-Aways: "avoid agenda/prejudice", "self-determination is not as simple as it seems", "explore core values between parties", "be alert to power imbalances", "look for underlying emotions"

Overall it was a thought-provoking evening that offered an opportunity for increased self-awareness and skill improvement. The next joint discussion group is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, October 19, 2016.

March 8 International Women's Day

Copied from the United Nations website:
<http://www.un.org/en/events/womensday/>

International Women's Day is a time to reflect on progress made, to call for change and to celebrate acts of courage and determination by ordinary women who have played an extraordinary role in the history of their countries and communities.

The 2016 theme for International Women's Day is:

"Planet 50-50 by 2030: Step It Up for Gender Equality".

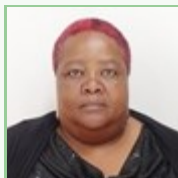
The idea of this theme is to consider how to accelerate the 2030 Agenda, building momentum for the effective implementation of the new Sustainable Development Goals, especially goal number 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls; and number 4: Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning. The theme will also focus on new commitments under the UN Women's Step It Up initiative, and other existing commitments on gender equality, women's empowerment and women's human rights.

Some key targets of the 2030 Agenda:

- By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and Goal-4 effective learning outcomes.
- By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.
- End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere.
- Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.
- Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.



Judge Najla Ayubi of Afghanistan is a firm believer that there can be no peace without justice. An outspoken proponent of women's rights, she is frequently tasked with advising on gender mainstreaming, Judge Ayubi has not hesitated to critique post-conflict transition processes that have excluded women.



Pauline Dempers is a human rights activist from Namibia. "...I feel that there are people out there who are vulnerable, especially women. And I feel that I have the chance to make a difference."



Galia Golan is a professor emerita who lectures internationally and is a recognized expert in international affairs and foreign policy, Golan has been an instrumental figure in leading the Israeli peace movement, beginning with her role as a founder and leader of Peace Now, Israel's prominent mass peace movement.

2015 Peacemakers courtesy of the University of San Diego, Joan B. Krock Institute for Peace and Justice
<https://www.sandiego.edu>