

The Courthouse Steps

A NEWSLETTER FOR NEUTRALS WHO SERVE THE NEW HAMPSHIRE JUDICIAL BRANCH

November 7, 2023

Tuesday



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Rule 32, Circuit Court District Mediator Training – RSVP!

We are finalizing a contract with Audrey Lee and David Hoffman from the Boston Law Collaborative to provide a six hour in-person Advanced Mediation Skills training with two hours of pre-work at the Federal Courthouse on **January 30, 2024 from 9am-3pm.**

If you are a Superior Court Rule 32 mediators or Circuit Court Small Claims/Civil/LT mediator **please RSVP by December 15th!** The training is free for mediators. If there is additional space, we will expand registration to other mediators. We are working with the Superior Court to extend the Rule 32 refresher training requirement deadline for 2023 to include the training.

Please RSVP here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QKPL5FZ>

Details to follow.

Printers

At long last, we have received new printers for mediators to use. Currently the new printers are available at the following locations: Berlin, Brentwood, Conway, Goffstown, Haverhill, Hooksett, Hillsborough, Littleton, Merrimack, Milford, and Salem. They are in the process of being delivered to Claremont, Dover Jaffrey and Keene, with the expectation that they should arrive by mid-November.

Please talk to your local court staff about using a portable printer. If you run into any tech issues or if you have any questions, please contact Carissa at ccarkhuff@courts.state.nh.us and Margaret at mhuang@courts.state.nh.us

Form Changes

Form changes effective now:

Number	Description	What's Changed
NHJB – 2625 NOW NHJB-3229-DFP	Agreement to mediate (probate)	Unify forms. You can access the new form here: https://www.courts.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt471/files/documents/2023-11/nhjb-3229-dfp.pdf
NHJB – 2171 NOW NHJB-3229-DFP	Agreement to Mediate (Small Claims/Civil)	

Form changes under consideration and/or waiting approval: (DRAFT)

Number	Description	What's Changing
NHJB – 2542	Notice of Intent to Mediate (VMA)	Based on feedback from the HNMCP evaluation, the judicial branch is considering consolidating the two forms needed to request VMA into one form
NHJB-3220	Mediation Summary for Voluntarily Mediated Adoption (VMA)	Based on feedback from the HNMCP evaluation, the judicial branch is considering creating a mediation summary form for VMAs to assist mediators in obtaining a pre-mediation summary from the parties.

LT Mediation – Update – Action plan approved

We have received a fully executed agreement from HUD regarding the CPF Grant and an approved action plan! We are in the process of going over the performance measures and revising our data collection materials. Please stay tuned.

Resource List

Carissa Carkhuff revised our Resource list and has created a beautiful new format for it. You can access it here:

<https://www.courts.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt471/files/inline-documents/sonh/adr-professionals-statewide-services-resource-list.pdf>

If you have any additional resources that you would like to add to the list, please send us the name of the organization and what kind of assistance the organization offers.

To preserve the rule of law and to protect the rights and liberties guaranteed by the US and NH Constitutions, the Court will provide accessible, prompt, and efficient forums for the fair and independent administration of justice, with respect for the dignity of all we serve

Non-Judicial Branch Training

Using Technology in Mediation

December 12, 4-5:30pm via Zoom

Free

We are all looking for innovative ideas to streamline our practice and offer the most relevant and accessible resources for our clients. Forrest Collins, Attorney, Mediator and founder of ParentingPlanBuilder.com has graciously agreed to talk with mediators and attorneys about current technology for use in our practices including, document automation, practice tools (parenting Apps, remote alcohol monitoring), Artificial Intelligence, Password managers, encryption software, Virtual Private Networks and eSigning. This training will be submitted for approval of CEUs to the Family Mediation Certification Board. This training is free and will be submitted for CEU approval through the Family Mediation Certification Board.

To register, email mary@marysargentmediation.com

Facilitating Strong Emotions – NH Listens Lunchbox Session

December 6, 12pm-12:45pm

Join NH Listens for a 45-minute informative and interactive session aimed at sharing bite-sized tips and resources from our toolbox for community engagement and facilitation. This session is Facilitating Strong Emotions; understanding emotions in ourselves and others is critical to being an effective facilitator, especially when called to be brave.

To register, visit this website:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ejxa97jmc7a04a89&llr=4pj54lcb>