# **The Courthouse Steps**

A NEWSLETTER FOR NEUTRALS WHO SERVE THE NEW HAMPSHIRE JUDICIAL BRANCH

December 2, 2021

**Thursday** 



## Table of Contents

- 1. Gratitude and Well Wishes
- 2. Small Claims/Civil Restart
- 3. Rule 32 Mediator Reminder
- 4. Non-Judicial Branch Training

## Gratitude and Well Wishes

Thank you for all the incredible work that you have done this year. It has been another year full of change as we continued to navigate the effects that COVID-19 had on our society. You adjusted to mediating remotely when the courts closed its doors to the public and then readjusted to mediating in-person when the courts reopened its doors. Nonetheless this experience has shown some of the benefits of remote mediation, and many mediators have now incorporated remote mediation in their standard practice. Thank you again for your grace and flexibility.

I continue to be humbled by the work that you all continue to do in order to create a space for people to express themselves, and to listen. Please let me know how I can continue to be supportive and a resource to you.

I wish you all a happy, safe, and healthy holiday season!

Thank you,

Margaret Huang ADR Coordinator

# **Small Claims/Civil Restart January 2022**

All Circuit Courts are set to start processing their small claims and civil cases starting in 2022. The staff in the courts you are assigned to should be reaching out to you to discuss your availability next year and whether the pre-trials will be held in-person or remotely. Many may have already reached out. Please let me know if you have any questions.

## **Rule 32 Mediator Training Requirement Reminder**

This is a gentle reminder to Superior Court neutrals that documentation of the annual eight hour refresher training requirement to maintain eligibility for 2022 is due in January. As Judge Nadeau clarified in 2016, any number of hours may be met through continuing education about an area of law relevant to your practice, and any number of hours can be met through continuing education about ADR in general, and four (4) hours of the requirement can be met through mediating.

Any trainings advertised in these newsletters throughout the year is considered continuing education about ADR. Additionally, on-demand trainings can be found at the American Arbitration Association (<a href="https://www.aaaeducation.org/courses/self-paced">https://www.aaaeducation.org/courses/self-paced</a>), and the National Center for Technology & Dispute Resolution has a recorded panel talks on ODR (<a href="https://odr.info/video-archive/">https://odr.info/video-archive/</a>)

## **Non-Judicial Branch Training**

Probate/Estate/Trusts/Inheritance in Divorce (Free!)

December 8, 2021 at 1:30-2:30 via Zoom Register at: <a href="mary@marysargentmediation.com">mary@marysargentmediation.com</a>

#### **Parent Alienation**

January 14, 2022 at 12pm (noon)

Register at <u>mary@marysargentmediation.com</u>

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