

The Courthouse Steps

A NEWSLETTER FOR NEUTRALS WHO SERVE THE NEW HAMPSHIRE JUDICIAL BRANCH

February 1, 2022

Tuesday



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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

Case Manager/Mediator Conference CEU Approval

The Case Manager/Mediator conference held September 24, 2021 has been approved by the Family Mediator Certification Board for 5.5 hours of continuing education. If you attended the conference, please see Patty Cole's email on January 27, 2021 for your certificate of attendance.

Legislation

Two pieces of proposed legislation in this year's legislative session may be of interest to mediators and neutrals.

SB 336 – Relative to Family Mediator Interns

This bill would establish the qualifications and appropriate instances of include of qualified family mediator interns in court-referred mediations.

SB 216 - Establishing a Commission to Study the Landlord and Tenant Mediation Program in Circuit Courts

This bill would establish a commission to study the landlord-tenant mediation program in the Circuit Court and report its findings and any recommendations for proposed legislation to the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Senate Clerk, House Clerk, the Governor, and the State Library.

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 with their pre-trial and structuring conference schedules for this year. While pre-trials and structuring conferences are presumptively remote, many courts are choosing to hold them in-person. Please email mhuang@courts.state.nh.us if you have any questions.

LT Mediation – Data Collection Form

This is a gentle reminder for LT mediators to fill out the data collection form (NHJB 3209-De) with tenants at the end of every mediation. We use this to determine whether the mediation is eligible to be paid for by the grant. Please email mhuang@courts.state.nh.us if you have any questions.

Non-Judicial Branch Training

Lunch and Learn Primer on QDROs (Free!)

February 2, 2022 at 12pm via Zoom

Email Mary Sargent mary@marysargentmediation.com

Learn more about QDROs to draft better decrees. Some question that will be answered include: What types of retirement plans require a QDRO? How much does a ADRO cost? Who pays for it? What about the administrator fee? What is the Hodgkins formula? And others. This lunch and learn is free.