

FOCUSING ON MEDIATION

Mediation is an alternative method of resolving your child support*, spousal support and related issues without going to court. Mediation is a cooperative problem solving process between the parties, with the assistance of a trained mediator. Mediation is not therapy. The goal of mediation is to help you and your former partner make a plan designed to meet your families' support needs without going to court. If you both agree, Ms. Serrata will mediate child support, spousal support and other child related issues with you. Agreements reached through mediation are reduced to writing and will become a court order. With a mediated agreement, the parties need not appear in court. The parties' agreement will be submitted to the court for the Judge's signature and filing. One of the most important benefits of mediated agreement is that it is made by parties/parents as opposed to a Judge deciding the amount of support you will pay. An agreement made by the parents to meet their families' needs often reduces stress between the parents and the likelihood of litigating in the futures.

*When support has been assigned to the Department of Child Support Services (D.C.S.S.), the mediated child support agreement must be approved by the D.C.S.S.

SCHEDULE

This schedule is subject to change without notice. Please understand we are available on a 1st come, 1st served basis & subject to staff availability.

Nevada City Sign In Hours until we reach capacity:

Mondays: 8:30 am. until full

Tuesdays: 8:30 am. until full

Wednesdays: 8:30 am. until full

Thursdays: 8:30 am. until full

Closed Fridays for Administration,
Assisting SRL in Truckee, Downieville & Loyalton

Gretchen Serrata is available in Nevada City, Truckee, Downieville and Loyalton by appointment only or court referral

REFERRALS

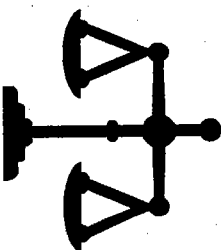
The Family Law Facilitator's office can provide information and referrals for:

- Domestic Violence;
- Community Resource information regarding substance abuse;
- Individual, family or child counseling;
- Other community resources to help families

OFFICE OF THE FAMILY LAW FACILITATOR

*for the
Superior Court of
California
Counties of
Nevada and Sierra*

*Gretchen Serrata, Facilitator
Terry Houser, Legal Assistant
Connie (Consuelo) Vargas-Martin,
Legal Assistant/Services Bilinguals*



*Superior Court
201 Church St, Suite 10
Nevada City, CA 95959
530-470-2567
Fax: 530-478-1946*

NO HAY CARGA PARA NUESTRO SERVICIOS

THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR FLF SERVICES

DISCLOSURE

The Family Law Facilitator, Gretchen Serrata, is an attorney available to help all parents/parties, who are not represented by attorneys, and who have questions concerning family law matters, such as issues about child support, spousal support, health insurance, paternity and the visitation process, and community resources to help families. The Facilitator and staff can help you in preparing your own forms and can give you general information. The Facilitator and staff cannot go with you to court.

The Facilitator is **not your lawyer**, but is a neutral person who does not represent any parent/party. No Attorney-client relationship is created between the Facilitator and a person using the Facilitator's services. The Facilitator is available to see both parents/parties who have questions concerning family law matters. There is no confidentiality created between the Facilitator and a person using these services. You should consult with your own attorney if you want personalized advice or strategy, to have a confidential conversation, or to be represented by an attorney in court.

The Family Law Facilitator is not responsible for the outcome of your case.

The Office of the Family Law Facilitator for the counties of Nevada and Sierra opened in October of 1997 in four locations: Nevada City, Truckee, Downieville andoyalton. The facilitator's office provides assistance to parents/parties representing themselves in court on family law issues. The Family

Law Facilitator (FLF) and staff can assist the self-represented litigants, (SRL) with the following services:

- All locations have self-help books on family law issues such as child support, spousal support, child custody, paternity, divorce, etc. to better help you represent yourself.
- The FLF and staff can assist you in the preparation of appropriate court forms and other documents
- If both parents agree or the court orders, the FLF will meet with the parents/parties and mediation child support, spousal support, childcare and health child care costs/reimbursement and other child related issues. If the parents/parties come to an agreement it becomes an order of the court without having to appear before the judge. (When support has been assigned to the Department of Child Support Services (DCSS), the mediated child support agreement must also be signed by the DCSS.) The FLF will mediate other family law issues by court referral.
- The FLF can assist you in calculating child and spousal support and answering support related questions.

DIVULGACION

La asesora legal del Tribunal de Familia, está disponible para ayudar a padres o a cualquier persona que tenga preguntas relacionadas con las leyes del Tribunal de Familia. Ejemplos de esto son: manutención de menores, pensión alimenticia para el cónyuge, seguro médico y la disponibilidad de recursos comunitarios destinados a ayudar a la familia. El asesor legal puede proporcionar información general a quienes la consulten, y ayudar a llenar documentos, pero no se le permite acompañarles al tribunal.

La asesora legal del Tribunal NO ES SU ABOGADO PARTICULAR, sino una persona neutral que no representa a ninguna de las partes ni a ninguno de los padres. No puede existir relación de abogado-cliente con el asesor legal del Tribunal de Familia. Asimismo, se le permite proporcionar información a la parte contraria en su caso. Las comunicaciones que usted tenga con el asesor legal del Tribunal no son confidenciales. Si necesita consejo o estrategias legales, conversaciones confidenciales u obtener representación legal, le conviene consultar con un abogado particular. El asesor legal del Tribunal de Familia no se hace responsable del resultado de su caso.

Para ayuda en Español llame a 530-470-2569.