



**District Court of Maryland  
ADR Office**

**MEDIATION**

The District Court of Maryland provides mediation at no cost to you. Participation in mediation in the District Court is voluntary – you decide if you want to try mediation.

**WHAT IS MEDIATION?**

In mediation, everyone in the dispute meets together to talk about ways to resolve the dispute with the help of a mediator. Mediation lets you and the other person decide what solutions work best for both of you.

The mediator helps people in the dispute communicate, understand each other, and if possible, reach agreement.

The mediator does not act as a judge. The mediator remains neutral throughout the process and will not give legal advice, represent you, or make decisions about the dispute.

**TYPES OF DISPUTES MEDIATED**

Civil claims up to \$30,000, including:

- **Contract:** Dissatisfaction with, or lack of payment for, goods or services; vehicle and home repair; personal loan; debt on unpaid credit card or medical bill
- **Tort:** Personal injury, slip and fall, auto accident
- **Detinue/Replevin:** Return of personal property or compensation for its value, determination of property ownership
- **Landlord/Tenant:** Failure to Pay Rent, Breach of Lease, Tenant Holding Over, Wrongful Detainer

**MEDIATION IS AVAILABLE:**

**Before you file a case in the District Court:**

The District Court ADR Office partners with mediation service providers statewide to help you resolve your dispute.

**Before your trial date:**

Pre-trial mediation is available online through videoconferencing after all parties have been notified of the case. Call in advance to schedule!

**On the day of your trial:**

Some court locations may have mediators available on your trial date. Let the court staff know you are interested in mediation when checking into the courtroom for your trial.

**FOR MEDIATION:**

District Court of Maryland  
Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Office  
410-260-1676 or 1-866-940-1729  
adroffice@mdcourts.gov  
www.mdcourts.gov/district/adr/home

The District Court ADR Office is unable to provide mediation for rent escrow, protective orders, traffic and criminal matters, or Circuit Court cases. The District Court ADR Office does not provide legal advice.

**TO TALK WITH A LAWYER:**

Get help with civil matters if you do not have a lawyer. This free service is provided to help you represent yourself.

Maryland Court Help Center  
410-260-1392  
mdcourts.gov/helpcenter

**ADR-013 (01/2024)**