

Why Chose Mediation Over Trial Litigation

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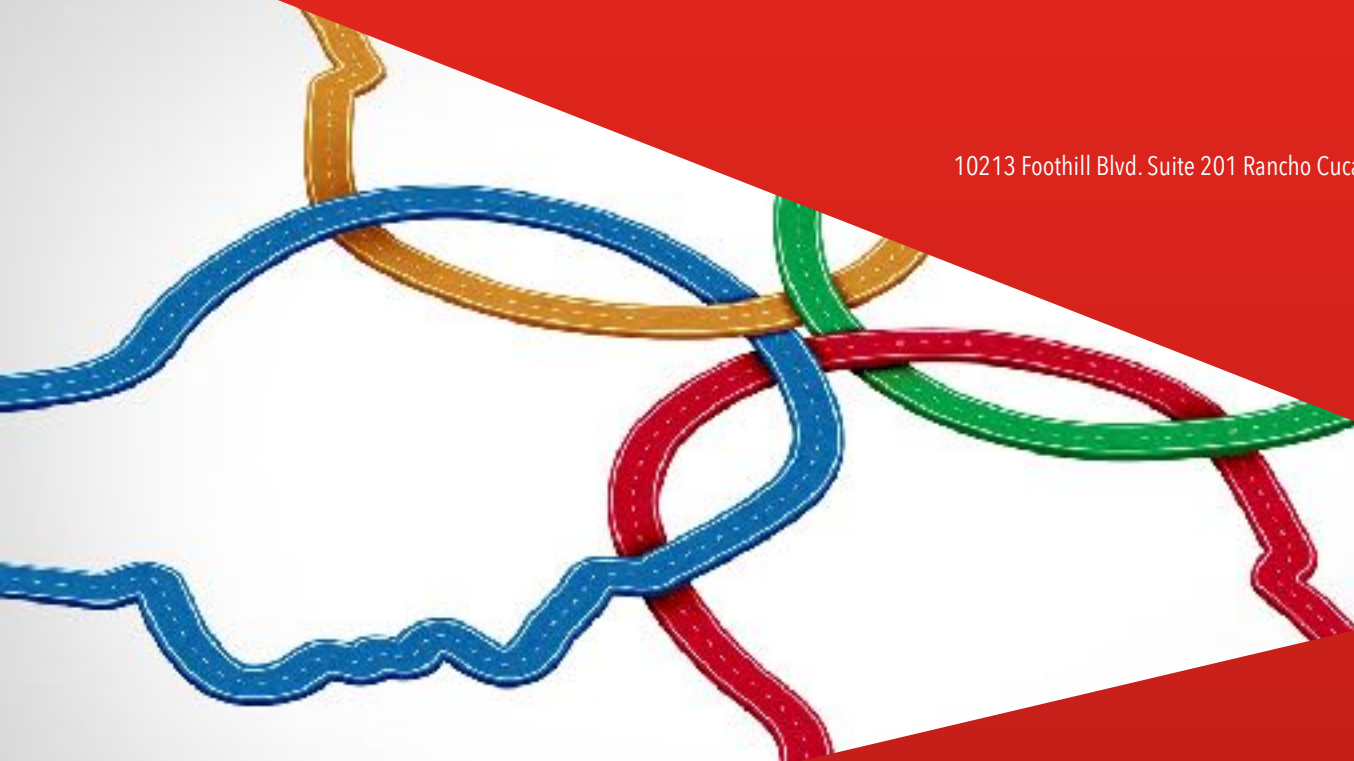
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Over the past several years, mediation—the process in which two parties who are involved in a legal dispute have a neutral party help them come to a beneficial resolution to the dispute—has become gradually more popular, especially because of the large amount of backlogged cases that the courts simply can't get to.

In fact, because of the amount of backlogged cases, often the court system simply doesn't have the resources to take every civil case to trial. (Brooke, CA Codes) The way mediation sessions work, is if there is a case that has a dispute amount of less \$50,000, the parties involved are often informed of the mediation option.



If they then decide to mediate, they choose a mediator and the mediator will meet with the parties involved and possibly their attorneys. The mediator will then either have sessions with both parties together, or meet with them separately until an agreement can be reached.

The mediation process is much less expensive, less time consuming and less stressful for the parties involved than a court case would be. (Brooke) However, there are still several attorneys who are resistant to the idea of mediation because it takes away from their income, as well as other factors. This is unfortunate since mediation is often in the clients' best interests since it is less time consuming, more cost effective, less stressful, and helps to salvage relationships that would possibly be destroyed in a court case.

With Mediation, there are several protections that have been put in place for the mediator, the attorneys, and the clients. In essence, this means that though clients can sue their attorneys after a trial if they decide that they aren't completely satisfied with the outcome, the mediation process doesn't allow that to happen to the attorneys because of the protections that have been put in place. Mediation is a safe and effective way to resolve even the most difficult cases if the cases are presented by attorneys who are prepared to mediate to a professional mediator who knows what he or she is required to do for the protection of all involved.

Keep Your Family Ties Strong

California trial attorney [Soheila Azizi](#) is the current president and panelist with California Arbitration & Mediation Services (CAMS).



In this capacity, Ms. Azizi provides clients with dispute resolution services as a mediator/arbitrator and neutral case evaluator. Ms. Azizi brings creative solutions to challenging disputes by combining litigation experience with diverse mediation styles and transformative techniques. She has completed mediation seminars and training programs, including the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University.

Learn More About Our Mediation Services

For more information about the benefits and options in a family mediation, please contact our offices. We help parents and spouses arrive at fair and beneficial divorce settlement agreements. We are your law firm for life.