

THE NEW YORK DIVORCE MEDIATION PROCESS

By Cari B. Rincker. Esq.

Initial Consultation

- Sign the Initial Consultation Form
- Sign Confidentiality Agreement
- Go through the Client Intake
- Review the Mediation Agreement
- Discuss the Mediation Process

Mediation Period

- Mediations will last for approximately 2 hours
- When appropriate, written debriefs will be sent to clients after mediation sessions
- The number of mediation sessions depends on the complexity of the issues and the parties' communication
- During this period, one or both parties may wish to speak to a *consulting attorney*

Stipulation of Settlement/Separation Agreement/ Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU")

- Will draft and review the Stipulation of Settlement (for a divorce action), Separation Agreement, or a more informal Memorandum of Understanding
- Parties may review the agreement with a *reviewing attorney*

Filing "Uncontested Divorce Packet"

- If the parties desire to move forward with the divorce process, one party may retain Rincker Law, PLLC to finalize the uncontested divorce packet
- Once filed, court will sign Judgment of Divorce and Findings of Fact & Conclusions of Law within 2-8 months, depending on the county
- Rincker Law, PLLC will (1) pick up certified copies of the divorce papers, (2) serve them on the other party, and (3) file the Notice of Entry

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