

THE ILLINOIS FAMILY LAW 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*

Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU")

- We will draft a Memorandum of Understanding
- Parties should consult with their own attorneys to draft final agreements incorporating the terms of MOU

Drafting, Reviewing and Signing Final Papers

- Both Parties are encouraged to have their own consulting attorney to complete this stage.