



Mediation News

Maryland Commission on Human Relations Newsletter

SUMMER 2008

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MCHR is STATEWIDE!

You may not have noticed that the Commission has mediation locations throughout our great State! We're always looking for mediators on our roster who might be willing to mediate in different locations. We often partner with other human rights offices and/or county community mediation centers to offer mediations to participants who live outside the Baltimore-metro area. The following is a list of locations where we hold MCHR mediation sessions. If you are interested in mediating in any of these locations, please let Maria know the next time you are in the main office or send an email to mandrews@mail.mchr.state.md.us.

MCHR Mediation Locations:

- Annapolis (Anne Arundel County)
- Baltimore Main Office (St. Paul Street)
- Bel Air (Harford County)
- Easton (Talbot County)
- Frederick (Frederick County)
- Hagerstown (Washington County)
- Leonardtown (St. Mary's County)
- Rockville (Montgomery County)
- Salisbury (Wicomico County)
- Solomons (Calvert County – coming soon!)



MARIA'S MINUTE

Greetings Volunteers!

I hope everyone is having a great summer! Please remember to keep us in the loop with any updated contact information that may have changed for you such as e-mail, home address, cell phone, etc. It is very important for cancellations and confirmations that we have updated contact information to notify you. As the summer winds down, if there is a change in your schedule please contact me at mandrews@mail.mchr.state.md.us or 410-767-8577 so I can schedule you accordingly. Thanks for your continued time and dedication in volunteering for our program!

Cheers!
Maria

Volunteer Spotlight



ED KETCHEN spent his early career as a trial attorney for various federal agencies and then spent most of his career as an administrative judge dealing with public contracts for the Maryland, Armed Services, and Corps of Engineers Boards of Contract Appeals. With a background in engineering, Ed particularly enjoyed the construction aspect of the contracts he dealt with.

In the early 1980s, Ed became interested in ADR to resolve many of the disputes he saw as an administrative judge and found his way into a free ADR training in exchange for volunteer hours. He loved the way ADR and mediation allowed people to find common ground leading to a quicker, less expensive way to resolve their disputes. He later volunteered to mediate employment disputes at the D.C. Human Resources Dept. and found mediation seeping into the work he did at the Corps of Engineers Board.

Ed left government service in 2006 and wanted to get back into "more intense" mediation work so he took a 40-hour mediation course. He now volunteers for MCHR, two community mediation programs and is on the mediation rosters for both the Frederick and Howard County Circuit Courts and the District Court Day of Trial Program. He also is an independent contractor for Creative Dispute Resolutions, LLC where he mediates state and federal contract disputes.

Ed says he enjoys mediating at MCHR not only because he finds listening and helping the parties resolve their disputes very rewarding, but he also finds co-mediating to be a terrific experience. When he's not mediating, he enjoys hiking and camping, reading and spending time with his family.

Thanks for all your service, Ed!