








## Why Try Mediation?

-  On your court date, you may be required to try mediation if you are involved in a Small Claims case and both parties appear at court, and there is still a dispute.
-  You may also request mediation on another day before your hearing.
-  A neutral party called a mediator will assist you in trying to resolve your case.
-  Mediation allows you to make choices about what you believe is in your best interest. You may find out that there are options you did not know about.
-  The mediator does not decide your case or make any recommendations to the judge. The mediator is there to help you talk about the issues that brought you to court.
-  You and the other party make the decisions in mediation about settling your case. By trying mediation, you do not give up your right to a court hearing.
-  You can make offers to compromise that are “off the record.” Mediation gives you a chance to see if you can reach agreement about how to settle your case. Any agreements reached in mediation are voluntary.