

EARLY SETTLEMENT SOUTHEAST PROGRAM



Cases that are Appropriate for Mediation

By Sara Northcutt

Mediation is ideal for cases involving mild to moderate conflict over any number of issues like alimony, property division, child custody, visitation and child support. Mediation doesn't require the parties come to the table totally in agreement; the mediator can help both spouses, former spouses, or unmarried parents work through any disagreements they have. Parties that are willing to negotiate and have the same goal to resolve the issues in a timely and respectable manner are more suitable for mediation.

An initial interview will be conducted on every dispute referred to Early Settlement that operate under the authority of the Act and the Oklahoma Rules and Procedures for the Dispute Resolution Act. The interview is for the purpose of determining the identity of the parties, if the matter is appropriate for mediation and if the parties are capable of meaningful participation in the mediation process.

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WHEN IT'S RISKY

Cases involving domestic violence or child abuse or neglect typically aren't appropriate for mediation. The reason for this is evident; the two spouses must work together for mediation to be successful. They must also make all the decisions on their own. If there is a severe imbalance of power or if it is evident someone of authority should be making the decisions, mediation may not be a good idea. Mediation leaves the potential for either spouse to influence the other.

Therefore, if violence or harm are risk factors, mediation should be avoided.



THANK YOU

McAlester Lion's Club


 Early Settlement Mediation
Southeast Program



Southeast Program Director, Sara Northcutt, spoke about Early Settlement Mediation services and volunteer opportunity with the Lion's Club in McAlester on Thursday, February 16th, 2023.

We are thankful for the citizens in our community that still believe in the importance of volunteer services!

For more information
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 Email: Sara.Northcutt@oscn.net
 Visit: <https://adrs.oscn.net/>

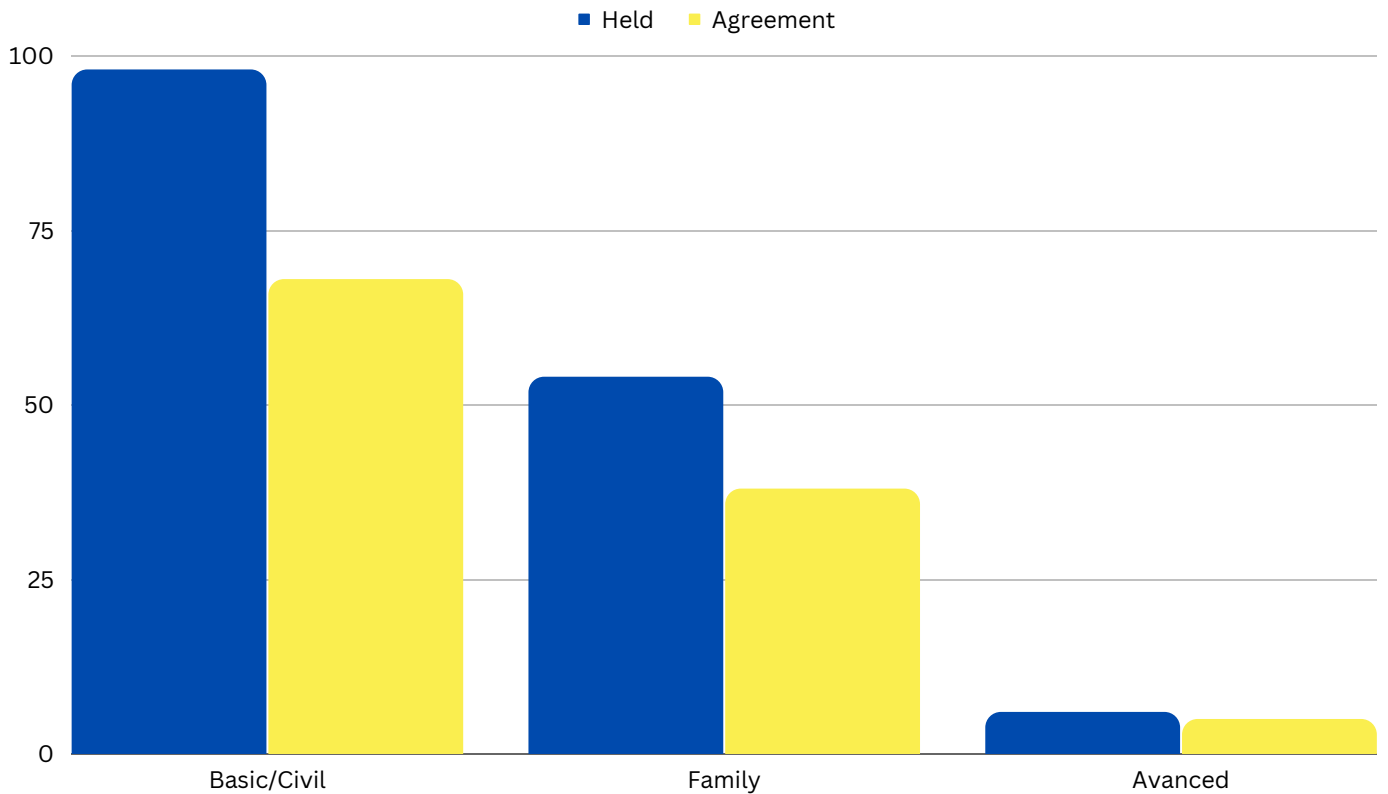
DATES TO REMEMBER

- April 10-11, 2023:* 2-Day Basic Training (McAlester)
- April 18th, 2023:* SE Volunteer Virtual Meeting 9am-10am
- April 28th, 2023:* Volunteer Conference (OKC)
- June 13th, 2023:* SE Volunteer Luncheon (McAlester)

CURRENT FY23 CASELOAD SUMMARY

BASIC/CIVIL	FAMILY	ADVANCED
109 Referred	80 Referred	6 Referred
98 Held	54 Held	6 Held
65 Agreements (66%)	38 Agreements (70%)	5 Agreements (83%)

**NUMBERS REFLECT CASE SUMMARY FROM JULY 1ST, 2022 - FEBRUARY 28TH, 2023*
**AGREEMENTS ARE CASES THAT ENDED IN FULL OR PARTIAL AGREEMENTS*



THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING EARLY SETTLEMENT SOUTHEAST!