

## SMALL CLAIMS COURT MEDIATOR PANEL REQUIREMENTS

### *Bringing Peace, Creating Peacemakers*

**Mission Statement:** CCR's purpose in contracting with the County of Los Angeles is to provide competent dispute resolution services to the community as a viable alternative to litigation and disseminate information regarding CCR's programs.

**Qualifications:** Prior to volunteering for CCR's Small Claims Court Program a mediator must have completed a basic mediation training program that complies with the requirements of the Dispute Resolution Program Act. CCR's training meets the requirements of the Dispute Resolution Program Act. A volunteer must agree to take CCR's training and attend Small Claims Court Continuing Education meetings regardless of previous training or experience. A minimum commitment of six months to a year is required of each panel member.

**Small Claims Court Training:** Mediators who qualify for the program will need to complete CCR's Court Program Training. This training consists of an informal interview with CCR's Director of Mediation Programs or Executive Director, an orientation to the Court Program, and an individualized hands-on observation and co-mediation plan designed to support the mediator in becoming proficient in the Small Claims Court arena. All volunteers are mentored by CCR's staff and other experienced volunteers. CCR's Court Program Training requires a minimum of ten hours.

CCR maintains a file on all its Small Claims Court mediators which must include, but is not limited to: a completed data sheet, personal letter of commitment, copy of training certificates, and a signed conflict of interest statement. CCR requests the mediator's resume and a one-page mediator profile be included in the mediator's file.

**Mediation Opportunities:** CCR's Court Mediation Panel provides mediation services for several Small Claims Courts in Los Angeles County under a grant from the Dispute Resolution Program. CCR's Court Mediators usually volunteer once a week for half a day. There are also more limited opportunities for volunteering in the evening.

I have read and understand the above and agree to strictly adhere to the policies of the Center for Conflict Resolution.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_