

# Long Island Center for Divorce Mediation

Call 631-757-1553 for FREE First Session or email [info@lidivorcemediation.com](mailto:info@lidivorcemediation.com) .

## **Divorce Mediation Guide**

- Key issues that need to be resolved include: child custody, child support, division of assets and liabilities, spousal support and distribution of pensions.
- Each mediation is unique. They range from simple – ex. no children, no house – to more complex – issues of child support and custody, decisions about house owned by both parties, dividing financial assets, etc.
- At the Long Island Center for Divorce Mediation - offices in Yaphank and Huntington – we offer a free first mediation session. We start with a description of divorce mediation – what it is and how it works -- and then work with you on making initial decisions. We usually start with the parenting issues regarding child custody and parenting time and how the parents are to make decisions together.
- In simple divorces – no kids, no house – we sometimes finish mediating all issues by the end of the free first session. In more complex divorces – kids and house and/or business and debts – one to three additional sessions are usually needed.

- After the initial – free session, if you choose to continue with us, subsequent sessions include detailed calculation of child support and spousal support. We determine with you disposition of house and other marital assets and liabilities. Decisions are made regarding health and life insurance as well as pensions.
- We discuss simple tax implications with you regarding spousal and child support as well as sale of house and division of pensions, etc. For more complex tax issues, we advise you to talk to your accountant or financial planner.
- We encourage co-parenting and discuss how to succeed at that. We offer co-parenting sessions for those who need it – conducted by Dr. Diane Kramer, our mediator/psychologist/therapist.
- You, the Spouses, make all the decisions regarding all issues discussed during the mediation. As mediators, we guide you through the process as well as provide you with a set of options as needed. Without taking sides, we can explain what the laws are and how they are usually applied. One option – for example deciding on child support -- includes the explanation of NY State guidelines for Spousal and Child Support and how they work in your situation.
- We recognize the emotional issues in the divorce process and do our best to help you through the process – while staying objective and fair to both Spouses.
- Once all issues are mediated, our divorce lawyer and mediator, Fred Klarer, Esq., develops the Stipulation of Settlement (the contract between the two of you that lays out the entire agreement that you have made) and the Divorce Packet (the final papers that the Court needs to grant a divorce). Once you both review and edit those documents, and are completely satisfied that they reflect your agreement, you both come into the office and sign everything at once.
- In the last step, Fred submits the full set of documents to the Court. The Clerk's Office reviews them to make sure that satisfy the legal requirements to grant a divorce. The Clerk's Office does not ordinarily review the actual terms of the deal that you have made between you.

Once the Clerk's Office approves the paperwork they then submit the papers to the assigned Judge to be signed. Once the Judge has signed the Judgment of Divorce, the

Clerk's Office then submits it to the County Clerk, who then enters the Judgment into the official County Records. The date that the County Clerk enters the Judgment is the date that you are officially divorced.

with the help of a trained and experienced divorce mediator.

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## **Long Island Center for Divorce Mediation**

### **Divorce Mediators**



**Dr. Diane Kramer,  
Mediator/Marriage Counselor/Family Therapist**



**Fredrick Klarer, Esq.  
Mediator/Divorce Lawyer**

**Offices in Huntington (631-757-1553) and Yaphank (631-757-1554)  
Free First Session**

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