

## Outline

### Why mediate

- Required in certain family law cases
- Statistics on success
- Cost savings

### Mediator Information

- Personal / Professional connection
- Unbiased perspective / position
- Mediator costs split
- Protected process – Negotiations
- Domestic abuse considerations

### Benefits

- Control over outcome
- Third party perspective (if requested)
- Avoid trial prep / trial fees

### Preparation for effective mediation

- COME PREPARED WITH DOCUMENTS
  - o Proposed agreement
  - o Asset spreadsheet
- Prepare your client for process and potential outcomes
  - o Set expectations
  - o Discuss finances
  - o Discuss fall-back positions
- Refrain from adding fuel to the fire
- Seek opinion of the mediator

### In Person v. Zoom

- In person
  - o Ability to build a rapport
  - o No technical problems
  - o No distractions
  - o Everyone in one location – Easier to finalize
  - o Travel expense / time
- Zoom
  - o Everyone in the comfort of their space/environment
  - o No travel time – Saves money
  - o Flexibility
  - o Possible technical problems
  - o Getting signatures