



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING MARCH AS MEDIATION MONTH IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, the mediation process is helping the effort to improve relations and reduce conflict among residents, neighborhoods, and families throughout Santa Barbara County; and

WHEREAS, conflict is a natural part of everyday life, and responses to conflict encompass many choices that offer an opportunity to address the consequences of crime that include harm to victims and communities, overcrowded court calendars and prisons, minimal restitution, and rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, "Restorative Justice" interventions are mediated forums with offenders and victims of crime, offering offenders the opportunity to be directly accountable to those they harmed and make things as right as possible, thereby providing "restoring" and healing within communities, while reducing recidivism; and

WHEREAS, mediation can produce agreements between people that meet each person's interests, rather than win/lose outcomes and is used as a process that constructively resolves community controversies and personal disputes; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County contains a growing private sector of mediators and a variety of non-profit mediation programs who are ready and able to act as neutral mediators whenever called upon for needed services; and

WHEREAS, the following agencies are engaged in providing mediation services, conflict resolution training, restorative justice services, and promote mediation as "appropriate dispute resolution" (ADR) in our communities: Conflict Solutions Center/Community Mediation of Santa Barbara County, the ADR Section of the Santa Barbara County Bar Association, the Appropriate Dispute Resolution Programs Committee of Santa Barbara Superior Court, the Court Administered Dispute Resolution Program (CADRe) of Santa Barbara Superior Court, the Family Custody Services of Superior Court, the City of Santa Barbara Rental Housing Mediation Task Force, the UCSB Housing Office, the UCSB Extension Certificate Program, and local private mediation practitioners in Santa Barbara County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors proclaims March as "Mediation Month" in Santa Barbara County and encourages residents to engage in this form of conflict resolution whenever possible.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 18th day of March, 2008 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

[Signature]
Clerk of the Board

[Signature]
Supervisor - 1st District

[Signature]
Supervisor - 2nd District

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Supervisor - 3rd District

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Supervisor - 4th District

[Signature]
Supervisor - 5th District