

A Word About Meca L. Walker

After practicing family law as a trial attorney for 7 years and serving almost 10 years as a family law judge, my professional focus is a mediation and arbitration practice designed to help parties resolve conflicts in Harris County, Texas and surrounding areas.

I am a Board Member for the Texas Bar College, which is a statewide honorary society of lawyers and judges who obtain at least double the continued legal education required by the State Bar of Texas. My continued legal education and experience on both sides of the bench, give me a unique ability to help you settle your case.

A Word about Walker ADR Services

The goal of Walker ADR is to offer professional services, at an affordable rate, to individuals who have pending litigation or anticipate litigation if their conflict is not resolved to their mutual satisfaction. My goal is to save you time, money and stress.

The mediation process at Walker ADR uses a negotiation technique that is designed to search out an acceptable compromise that resolves the contested issues. This process allows me to work creatively in assisting parties in a search for the common ground. Texas law protects mediation as a **confidential** process so that settlement discussions may not be disclosed to the Court if a settlement is not reached. Neither the mediator nor her notes are subject to subpoena if a case is not resolved and has to go to trial.

The mediator serves as a neutral and objective professional whose first goal is to define the areas of conflict. As a general rule, the parties remain in separate rooms as the mediator goes back and forth, discussing and reporting viable options, while the parties work to achieve an agreement. By mutual consent, the parties may elect to work in joint session for part or all of the process. Once settlement is reached, the mediator drafts the agreement in correct form so that it is **binding** on all parties. The attorneys for the parties will then take the draft that has been prepared by the mediator and prepare a formal Order to be signed by the Court.

Walker ADR offers arbitration as another settlement format. Under Texas law parties and their attorneys may agree to submit all matters in controversy to **binding** arbitration rather than going to trial before a judge or jury. The parties and their attorneys present the case to the Arbitrator who makes the final decision on all unresolved issues. Arbitration may be formal, in compliance with the Texas Rules of Evidence and Civil Procedure, or may be informal depending on the preference of the parties involved. No matter if you choose Arbitration or Mediation, Walker ADR's goal is to reach a fair and workable solution for all parties.