# RIGHTS CONTROL SSION \*\*

# **OHIO CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION**

# **Mediation and Conflict Resolution**

#### **Mediation Program**

Mediation is an informal and efficient process that is facilitated by a neutral third party and is designed to assist parties in reaching a resolution. This process provides parties with a nonadversarial approach to resolving conflicts.

#### Why Choose Mediation?

The Ohio Civil Rights Commission's (OCRC) mediation program was developed and implemented in 1997. On average, the OCRC is able to successfully resolve approximately 85% of all cases that undergo mediation.

## Voluntary participation

All parties to a charge of discrimination must agree to participate in order for the process to begin.

#### Confidential

Communication disclosed during the mediation will be kept confidential and will not be shared.

### • Fair and impartial

The mediator facilitates communication and does not mandate a resolution.

#### • Save time & money

There is no charge for our mediation services and is scheduled at a convenient time for all of the parties. Attempts are made to conduct the mediation within 45 days.

#### **Complaint Process**

Any person who feels that they are a victim of discrimination because of their race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, disability, age, familial status (housing only) or military status may file a formal complaint with the OCRC. A person may also file on the basis of retaliation if they believe that they are retaliated against for exercising their right to file a charge, for participating in an investigation or for complaining about discrimination.

If the mediation process is unsuccessful or if one party does not wish to participate in mediation, the case will be referred to the investigative unit. Through a series of steps, which may include witness interviews, document requests and/or site visits, the Commission will determine whether or not discrimination has occurred.

All services are **free** of charge and complaints can be filed in person at your local OCRC office, by telephone or on our website (www.crc.ohio.gov) Charges must be filed within six months from the date of harm (or one year for cases alleging housing discrimination).

## **Regional Offices**

Akron Regional Office Ocasek Government Building 161 S. High St., Suite 205 Akron, OH 44308 330-643-3100 330-643-3120 (Fax)

Cleveland Regional Office Lausche State Office Building 615 W. Superior Avenue Suite 885 Cleveland, OH 44113 216-787-3150 216-787-4121 (Fax)

Columbus Regional Office Rhodes State Office Tower 30 E. Broad St., 4th Floor Columbus, OH 43215 614-466-5928 614-466-6250 (Fax)

Dayton Regional Office Point West III 3055 Kettering Blvd, Suite 111 Dayton, OH 45439 937-285-6500 937-285-6606 (Fax)

Toledo Regional Office One Government Center 640 Jackson St., Suite 936 Toledo, OH 43604 419-245-2900 419-245-2668 (Fax)

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