



Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite Explains When Family Law Mediation May Be Appropriate

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Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite, a Jacksonville-based law firm focused on family and criminal law, has released guidance addressing the circumstances under which mediation may be considered as a method for resolving disputes in Florida family law matters. The firm's explanation aims to clarify when parties involved in divorce, parenting, and financial disagreements might benefit from a structured process guided by a neutral mediator.

According to the firm, mediation may become relevant when parties have unresolved issues but remain willing to participate in a process designed to explore possible solutions. Such matters can include divorce, parenting plans and timesharing, financial and property division, child support, and a range of other family law disagreements. The firm notes that parties considering mediation do not need to agree on every issue, or even most issues, before the process can be pursued.

The guidance identifies several factors that may affect whether mediation is suitable for a particular case.

These include the nature and complexity of the disputed issues, the ability of each party to participate meaningfully, whether sufficient information is available to evaluate any potential agreement, and whether circumstances exist that could make mediation unsuitable or that require additional safeguards. The firm emphasizes that these considerations should be weighed on a case-by-case basis.

Jay Henderlite, a managing partner and Board Certified Marital and Family Law Expert at the firm, said the decision to pursue mediation should reflect the specific details of each family's situation. "Mediation can be a constructive option for many families, but it is not automatically the right approach for every dispute," Henderlite said. "The appropriateness of mediation depends on the circumstances of the individual matter, including the complexity of the issues and whether both parties are positioned to engage in the process in a meaningful way."

The firm also stresses that mediation produces a range of possible outcomes. A session may resolve all issues, settle only some, or conclude without an agreement. When issues remain unresolved, those matters may still need to proceed through the appropriate legal process. The firm advises that parties approach mediation with realistic expectations about what it can and cannot accomplish.

Henderlite added that preparation is central to evaluating whether the process is worthwhile. "Before entering mediation, it helps to understand what is being disputed and what information is needed to assess any proposed resolution," he said. "Having accurate mediation information allows parties to make informed decisions about whether the process fits their circumstances."

The firm encourages individuals facing family law disputes to evaluate mediation as one of several potential paths rather than assuming it is appropriate in every case. By examining the specific issues in dispute and the readiness of each party, families can better determine whether a structured discussion with a neutral mediator may lead to a workable resolution.

Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite is a law firm based in Jacksonville, Florida, specializing in family and criminal law. The firm is distinguished as the only practice in Northeast Florida with three Board Certified Marital and Family Law Experts serving as its managing partners. Its family law services include divorce, child custody, child support, parenting plans, paternity, alimony, prenuptial and postnuptial agreements, collaborative divorce, and mediation, along with representation in criminal law matters.

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Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite

Sasso Guerrero & Henderlite is a Jacksonville law firm representing clients in divorce, family law, and domestic violence cases. With three Board-Certified partners, the firm handles custody, support, alimony, and property division with dedication.

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