

Southern Metropolitan Mediation Services

P.O. Box 201141 Bloomington, MN 55420 Tel. 952.835.5571 Fax. 1.952.842.7233 smms@usfamily.net

2023 SERVICES AND FEES FOR SERVICE

MEDIATION sessions are available for divorce, custody, parenting time, financial matters, and other issues related to decision-making about children. **CHILD-INCLUSIVE** mediation is also available with permission of both parents. There is a one-time, nonrefundable administrative fee (\$300.00), and sessions are typically scheduled for 3 hours at \$300.00 per hour. Session fees are due not later than seventy-two (72) hours prior to session date online via PayPal.com. Unused session fees will be refunded or applied to drafting. [Sessions are now most often being held via Zoom. If all parties agree, in-person sessions are also available.]

CUSTODY EVALUATIONS involve between 30-40 hours depending on complexity of issues and include interviews with parents, children, and observation visit in each home, review of court documents, assessments, and other data, and collateral contacts with family members and other professionals. Initial recommendations are made to parties and counsel and if no agreement, a full written report is submitted to the Court ten (10) days prior to any scheduled hearing. [Flat fee per the fee schedule is due at time of intake; slide fee upon request with income verification; settlement meeting is included with the slide fee. Written report extra with slide fee and included with full fee. Fees for testimony are invoiced separately. **[Limited Scope evaluations also available calculated at \$300 per hour]. A Team Approach Gender-Balanced Evaluation process is also available upon request – contact Ms. Massaros for more information.**

PARENTING TIME/MOVE OUT OF STATE/SCHOOL SELECTION EVALUATIONS are conducted per order of the Court or at request of parties to address appropriate parenting time, disputes about school, or factors under 518.175 for move out of state. Final report with recommendations submitted to the Court not later than ten (10) days before any hearing or not later than 90 days from the start of the process. [Flat fee of \$4,200.00 split between parties, or payment split as agreed upon or ordered by the Court and due at time of intake; testimony is invoiced separately].

SOCIAL EARLY NEUTRAL EVALUATION [SENE] conducted by a male/female team to provide a recommendation about custody and parenting time based on the best interest of the child. Ms. Massaros is an evaluator on the Anoka, Dakota, Ramsey, Wright, Washington, Carver, Scott, Hennepin, Sherburne and Rice County panels and is also available to provide private SENE sessions in all MN counties. Fees are established per the guidelines for each county.

A TEAM APPROACH is available at no additional cost if parties prefer a male/female team for mediation/custody/parenting time evaluations/and parenting consultant services. SMMS will contract with other qualified neutrals to provide gender balance for any process. [Fee schedule remains the same. There are no additional fees for a male/female team].

LOCATION AND ROOM RENTAL EXPENSES: Sessions are conveniently held via Zoom or at a number of locations around the Twin Cities or office of counsel. SMMS is responsible for costs associated with space rental. Ms. Massaros is available for services in all MN Counties, and western Wisconsin. There are no fees for travel within a 100-mile radius of the Twin Cities.

METHOD OF PAYMENT/CANCELLATION POLICY: Clients may pay fees by paypal.com invoice or by cash or cashier's check prior to the meeting date or beginning of evaluation. Parties are responsible for fees and will be billed directly. If process is set up through counsel, then clients may choose to have counsel pay fees out of trust account and any unpaid fees after the session will be invoiced to the office of counsel. Cancellations of less than 72 hours are invoiced a one-hour administrative fee to each parent. Fees will be applied to a new session if scheduled at that time.

**Please contact Janeen Massaros at 952-835-5571 or smms@usfamily.net with questions or to schedule mediation, SENE or evaluation. Processes generally are conducted via Zoom and in-person depending on vaccination status of parties and counsel.
Visit our website at www.southmetromediation.com**