

#### WHAT IS MEDIATION?

Mediation is an informal, inexpensive, and confidential process for resolving disputes quickly. The mediator acts as an impartial third party who assists the parties in face-to-face meetings to work out a mutually acceptable solution.

There are two types of mediation available: 1) facilitative; and 2) evaluative. In facilitative mediation, trained mediators facilitate discussions between parties and assist participants in memorializing perspectives. Evaluative mediation is a form of mediation conducted by trained mediators who possess subject matter expertise in the Hawaii condominium law and have extensive experience mediating disputes. The mediators have knowledge of the relevant case law and apply it to the facts of the mediation, providing candid and informed assessments of each party's position. The mediators facilitate discussion and assist in the parties' attempts to reach agreement by giving objective feedback and suggestions on options for resolution.

#### **ARE THERE ADVANTAGES IN MEDIATION?**

- Inexpensive;
- Expedient;
- Parties control the solutions;
- Solutions are tailored to needs of parties;
- Confidential process by mediators with knowledge of the condominium law;
- Scheduled at convenience of parties;
- Even if dispute is not completely resolved, mediation often defuses hostilities, clarifies issues, and expands options; and
- Small Claims Court, arbitration, and litigation are still options if unable to resolve dispute through mediation.



# IS MEDIATION MANDATORY?

Section 514B-161, HRS, **requires** mediation if a condominium owner or the board of directors requests mediation of a dispute involving the interpretation or enforcement of an association's declaration, bylaws or house rules.



There is a nominal fee. The Real Estate Commission (Commission) established a trust fund, the Condominium Education Trust Fund, which is used for educational purposes, including mediation. Subject to availability of these monies, subsidized mediation services are available through the mediation providers listed in this brochure for **eligible parties and eligible issues**.

#### WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO FILE FOR MEDIATION?

Owners or boards of directors of condominium associations registered with the Commission.

#### WHAT IS CONSIDERED AN ELIGIBLE ISSUE?

Disputes involving:

- The declaration of a registered condominium association;
- The bylaws of a registered condominium association; and
- The house rules of a registered condominium association.
- Foreclosures, assessments, penalties, fines, and fees.

#### ARE THERE INELIGIBLE ISSUES?

• Parties and issues involving Chapter 521, HRS, Residential Landlord-Tenant Code

- Condominium developers and construction issues
- Timeshare owners/associations and timeshare issues
- Issues concerning employees of registered condominium associations and labor law issues

# WHAT IS THE PROCEDURE IN REQUESTING - SUBSIDIZED MEDIATION?

You may contact any of the Commission's mediation providers listed in this brochure. The mediation providers will explain their procedures and cost. The Commission does not conduct mediations.

# **MEDIATION PROVIDERS**

Contact the following facilitative mediation providers directly about the procedures and cost, and arranging mediation (check

<u>www.hawaii.gov/hirec</u> for a current list of mediation centers):

**Oahu:** Mediation Center of the Pacific, Inc. 1301 Young Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Honolulu, HI 96814 Tel: (808) 521-6767 Fax: (808) 538-1454 Email: mcp@mediatehawaii.org

<u>Maui</u>: Mediation Services of Maui, Inc. 95 Mahalani Street, Suite 25 Wailuku, HI 96793 Tel: (808) 244-5744 Fax: (808) 249-0905 Email: <u>info@mauimediation.org</u>

<u>W. Hawaii</u>: West Hawaii Mediation Center 65-1291 Kawaihae Road, #103B Kamuela, HI 96743 Tel: (808) 885-5525 Fax: (808) 887-0525 Email: <u>info@whmediation.org</u>

# (Mediation Providers continued on back)

#### **MEDIATION PROVIDERS - CONTINUED**

**E. Hawaii**: Ku'ikahi Mediation Center 101 Aupuni St. Ste. 1014 B-2 Hilo, HI 96720 Tel: (808) 935-7844 Fax: (808) 961-9727 Email: <u>info@hawaiimediation.org</u>

**Kauai:** Kauai Economic Opportunity, Inc. 2804 Wehe Road Lihue, HI 96766 Tel: (808) 245-4077 Ext. 229 or 237 Fax: (808) 245-7476 Email: <u>keo@keoinc.org</u>

#### **EVALUATIVE MEDIATION PROVIDERS**

### Lou Chang, A Law Corporation

Mediator, Arbitrator, Attorney Member, National Academy of Arbitrators P.O. Box 61188, Honolulu, Hawaii 96839 Tel: (808) 384-2468 Email: <u>louchang@hula.net</u> Website: <u>www.louchang.com</u>

#### **Charles W. Crumpton**

Crumpton Collaborative Solutions LLLC Tel: (808) 284-9209 Email: <u>crumpton@chjustice.com</u> Websites: <u>www.acctm.org</u>; <u>www.nadn.org</u>; www.accord3.com; and www.mediate.com

Mediation Center of the Pacific, Inc. 1301 Young Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Honolulu, HI 96814 Tel: (808) 521-6767 Email: <u>mcp@mediatehawaii.org</u>

#### **Dispute Prevention and Resolution**

1003 Bishop Street, Suite 1155 Honolulu, HI 96813 Tel: (808) 523-1234 Website: <u>http://www.dprhawaii.com/</u>

#### **USEFUL INFORMATION SOURCES**

Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) website:

#### http://cca.hawaii.gov/

Chapters 514A and 514B, HRS, and Chapter 107, HAR, regarding Condominium Property Regimes, are available online. Please refer to the following sites:

Website to access unofficial copy of laws: <u>www.capitol.hawaii.gov</u> <u>http://cca.hawaii.gov/hawaii-revised-statutes/</u>

Website to access rules: http://cca.hawaii.gov/hawaii-administrative-rules/

> STATE TOLL-FREE NUMBERS From the neighbor islands:

Hawaii 974-4000 ext 62643 Kauai 274-3141, ext. 62643 Maui 984-2400, ext. 62643 Molokai & Lanai 1-800-468-4644, ext. 62643

> Real Estate Branch Website: www.hawaii.gov/hirec

# **REAL ESTATE COMMISSION**

**STATE OF HAWAII** 

# MEDIATION OF CONDOMINIUM DISPUTES



# Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs

Real Estate Branch Professional & Vocational Licensing Division 335 Merchant Street, Room 333 Honolulu, HI 96813 Telephone: (808) 586-2643

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