

**MEDIATION PROGRAMS
FOR THE
UNITED STATES COURTS
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT**

Carolyn Lerner
Chief Circuit Mediator

Robert Fisher and Dina Gold
Circuit Mediators

NEW VOLUNTEER MEDIATOR ANNOUNCEMENT

The U.S. Courts of the District of Columbia Circuit are accepting applications from members of the Bar to serve as volunteer mediators. The Courts seek a variety of backgrounds, experience, and expertise, especially in the areas of employment and intellectual property law.

The U.S. Court of Appeals, the U.S. District Court, and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court offer mediation services in selected cases, free of charge, to enable parties in litigation to resolve their cases. The Courts rely on a volunteer corps of accomplished lawyers who are also trained mediators. The primary role of the mediators is to assist parties to reach a settlement, in whole or in part, and clarify or eliminate issues to expedite the litigation process. The Courts' mediators have helped resolve a wide range of cases that involve different types of parties and areas of the law.

Qualifications – To serve on the panel of mediators, candidates must:

- be admitted to the bar in any jurisdiction for at least 10 years and be a member of the Bar of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit or the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia;
- be knowledgeable about civil litigation in federal court;
- have strong mediation process skills and the temperament and training to be neutral, listen well, facilitate communication, and assist with settlement negotiations;
- be able to conduct mediations virtually, by telephone and video (assistance and support for conducting video mediations is available through the Mediation Program); and
- successfully complete a short mediation training sponsored by the Courts' Mediation Programs, which will be held either at the U.S. Courthouse or virtually.

Time Commitment – Mediation of a case can be completed within a few days or over a longer period of time depending on the complexity of the case and the number of parties. The mediator chooses whether to accept a mediation case assignment. While there is no required minimum number of cases per year, the Courts are seeking new mediators who will actively participate in the program over the next few years.

Applications – The application is available online - [CLICK HERE](#) – or on the Courts' websites – [Court of Appeals](#), [District Court](#), [Bankruptcy Court](#). To submit your application, email your resume with the completed application combined in a single document to the [Mediation Program](#). For additional information, please contact Robert Fisher at the [Mediation Program](#).

The deadline for applying is January 7, 2022.