

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

Robert Fisher
Chief Circuit Mediator

Dina Gold and Heather Croft
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, wage and hour, and personal injury law.

The Court of Appeals, the District Court, and the Bankruptcy Court offer confidential mediation services in selected civil cases, without charge, for parties in litigation to resolve their cases. The Courts rely on a volunteer panel of accomplished lawyers who are also trained mediators. Mediators assist parties to reach a settlement, in whole or in part, or to clarify or eliminate issues to expedite the litigation. The Courts' mediators have helped resolve a wide range of cases involving 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 or become a member of the Bar of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit or the U.S. District Court for D.C.;
- 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 the parties with settlement negotiations;
- be able to conduct mediation sessions in person and virtually, by telephone and video (the Mediation Program provides support and assistance for conducting video sessions); and
- successfully complete a mediation training conducted by the Courts' Mediation Programs, held at the U.S. Courthouse, and co-mediate one or more cases.

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

Applications. Access the application by scanning the QR code below or visiting the Courts' websites – [Court of Appeals](#), [District Court](#), or [Bankruptcy Court](#). For additional information, please contact the Mediation Program staff at mediation@cadc.uscourts.gov.

The deadline for applying is March 23, 2026.

