

RECOMMENDING COUNSELOR (Name and address):  TELEPHONE NO.: _____ FAX NO. (Optional): _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional): _____	<b>FOR COURT USE ONLY</b>          CASE NUMBER: _____
<b>SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO</b> STREET ADDRESS: MAILING ADDRESS: CITY AND ZIP CODE: BRANCH NAME:	
PETITIONER/PLAINTIFF: RESPONDENT/DEFENDANT:	
<b>DECLARATION OF PRIVATE CHILD CUSTODY RECOMMENDING  COUNSELOR REGARDING QUALIFICATIONS AND AVAILABILITY</b>	

1. I, (name): \_\_\_\_\_, declare that if I appeared in court and were sworn, I would testify to the truth of the facts in this declaration.
  
2. I submit this form to indicate compliance with all applicable requirements for a private Child Custody Recommending Counselor under local rule 5.18 of the Superior Court of California, County of Sacramento at the time of my appointment to this case.
  
3. The first available date that I will begin work in this case is (date): \_\_\_\_\_, I acknowledge that the report must be filed with the Court at least 10 days before the return hearing, and I will file:
  - Interim report                       Final report

**EDUCATION AND LICENSING REQUIREMENTS**

4.  I have a master's and/or doctoral degree in psychology, social work, marriage, family and child counseling, or other behavioral science substantially related to marriage and family interpersonal relationships.
  
- I am licensed by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences as a Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT), Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC), or licensed as psychologist by the California Board of Psychology.

**INITIAL TRAINING**

5.  I have completed all of the following initial training pursuant to Family code section 1815, California Rules of Court 5.210 and 5.230 and have:
  - (1) Completed a minimum of 40 hours of custody and visitation mediation training pursuant to California Rules of Court section 5.210.
  
  - (2) Completed a minimum of 16 hours of advanced domestic violence training pursuant to California Rules of Court section 5.230.

**QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE**

6.  I have met the minimum qualifications pursuant to Family code section 1815, California Rules of Court 5.210 and 5.230 and have:

- (1) At least two years of experience in counseling or psychotherapy, or both, preferably in a setting related to the areas of responsibility of the family conciliation court and with the ethnic population to be served pursuant Family Code section 1815.
- (2) Knowledge of the court system of California and the procedures used in family law cases pursuant to Family Code section 1815.
- (3) Knowledge of other resources in the community that clients can be referred to for assistance pursuant to Family Code section 1815.
- (4) Knowledge of adult psychopathology and the psychology of families pursuant to Family Code section 1815.
- (5) Knowledge of child development, child abuse, clinical issues relating to children, the effects of divorce on children, the effects of domestic violence on children, and child custody research sufficient to enable me to assess the mental health needs of children as described in Family Code section 1815.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION**

7.  Since completing the initial training I have completed the following continuing education:

- (1) Annually completed 8 hours of related continuing education programs, conferences, and workshops pursuant to California Rules of Court section 5.210(f).
- (2) Annually completed 4 hours of domestic violence update training pursuant to California Rules of Court sections 5.215 and 5.230.
- (3) Annually participated in performance supervision and peer review pursuant to California Rules of Court section 5.210(f).

**Note:** Only education and training acquired from eligible providers meets the requirements identified herein. "Eligible providers" includes the Administrative Office of the Courts and may include educational institutions, professional associations, professional continuing education groups, public or private for-profit or not-for-profit groups, and court- connected groups.

**OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

- 8.  I will adhere to the ethical mandates identified in California Rule of Court 5.210(h).
- I will at all times remain impartial and will uphold the standards of practice for child custody mediators contained in the California Rules of Court.
- I will allow sufficient time for parties to receive orientation, participate fully in mediation, and develop a comprehensive parenting plan without unduly compromising each party's right to due process and a timely resolution of the issues pursuant to California Rules of Court section 5.210(d)(1)(B).

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.  
Date:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(TYPE OF PRINT NAME)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(SIGNATURE OF DECLARANT)