Circuit Court Judges
KEVIN A. ELSENHEIMER
CHARLES M. HAMLYN

Family Division Judges
JENNIFER L. WHITTEN
STEVEN W. PACIORKA
STACEY L. TRUESDELL

**FRIEND OF THE COURT**
**FOR**
**THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF MICHIGAN**

Friend of the Court
JEREMY C. HOGUE

Family Division Referees
MATTHEW N. HAGEN
JENNIFER R. GRAY

**ANTRIM – GRAND TRAVERSE – LEELANAU COUNTIES**
328 Washington - Suite 200
Traverse City, MI 49684
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# REQUEST FOR FRIEND OF THE COURT MEDIATION

The Grand Traverse/Leelanau/Antrim County Friend of the Court offers **free** mediation services for your use in helping to resolve disputed issues over custody and/or parenting time of your child/ren.

Mediation is available through the Friend of the Court on a *voluntary* basis. Both parents must indicate their consent to this service. Mediation is strictly confidential. That is to say, those matters discussed in a mediation session cannot be used in a court hearing or before a Referee or Judge. Your assigned mediator will not discuss the mediation with anyone and cannot be called as a witness at the hearing.

Mediation is an alternative to litigation. You, the parents, are the real experts **of** your child/ren and it is likely that you can, with the help of a mediator, come together to discuss conflicts and reach an agreement that each of you can live with and work with for the best interests of your child/ren.

If you are able to reach an agreement, it will be reduced to writing for each parent to review, approve and sign. If no agreement is reached, you may still use the conventional way of settling matters by filing a motion with the Court and having a hearing.

Please sign below and return this form if you wish to use our mediation service.

**I am willing for mediation to be used as an alternative for resolving custody and/or parenting time issues in my case. I understand that should the other parent be unwilling to consider mediation, that no conference will be held. I am aware that this is voluntary on my part and that the matters discussed in such a session are confidential and cannot be used for or against me in any future hearing either before the Court or before a Referee/Judge. My assigned mediator cannot testify for or against me in such a hearing.**

Friend of the Court IV-D Case or Docket ID: _____

Printed Father Name: _____

Signature Father: _____ Date: _____

Printed Mother Name: _____

Signature Mother: _____ Date: _____