

328TH DISTRICT COURT PARENTING CLASS/MEDIATION

I. PARENT EDUCATION COURSE REQUIRED

Except for good cause shown to the Court, all parties to lawsuits in which there are minor children (whether conservatorship is contested or not) are required to attend a parent education seminar prior to appearing in Court for a final hearing. Children should attend the child-related portion of such seminar if offered by the seminar provider. A certificate verifying attendance at the parent education seminar must be filed with the Court prior to the signing of the Decree.

Seminars currently available in this area:

- Children Cope with Divorce, locations in Richmond and Houston, (713) 952-COPE
- Escape Family Resource Center, locations in Richmond and Houston, (713) 942-9500
- Depelchin Children's Center, locations in Stafford and Houston, (713) 730-2335
- Divorce as Friends-Stop the Conflict, Houston (713) 520-5370 www.divorceasfriends.com
- Kids First Co-Parenting Course, 1-888-777-2298 www.puttingkidsfirst.org
- Unlimited Choices to Recovery, (281) 762-1260 www.ucrecovery.com

APPROVED ONLINE COURSES

The Court has approved the following online courses:

www.family-affairs.org
www.parentingchoice.com
www.parentingpartnerships.com
www.ucrecovery.com

The Court must approve any other online course not listed above in advance.

II. MEDIATION REQUIRED PRIOR TO CONTESTED TEMPORARY HEARINGS ON CONSERVATORSHIP

Mediation is required on all matters involving conservatorship or geographic restrictions except in the case of a written motion and a showing of good cause.

III. MEDIATION REQUIRED PRIOR TO FINAL TRIAL ON MERITS

Except for good cause shown to the Court, all parties are required to attend mediation before a final trial in all cases. You may contact the Fort Bend Dispute Resolution Center at (281) 342-5000 or a private mediator. If the parties are unable to agree on a mediator or a mediation date, the Court will make that decision on written motion. A certificate of mediated settlement/or inability to settle at mediation signed by the mediator must be filed with the Clerk prior to trial on the merits, except in Applications for Protective Orders.