

JUL 08 2022

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7/8/2022

Cathy Brown
CLERK

Kathy D. Page
CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT

Laura Baker
CLERK/DEPUTY CLERK

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE BY
LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
COUNTIES OF CATOOSA, CHATTOOGA, DADE, and WALKER

**STANDING ORDER ADOPTING MEDIATION RULES OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL
ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT AND AMENDMENTS TO MEDIATION RULES**

In order to facilitate the mediation process in the Lookout Mountain Judicial Circuit, it is
HEREBY ORDERED AND ADJUDGED as follows:

The Seventh Judicial Administrative District Mediation Rules ("Rules") attached hereto
as Exhibit A are hereby adopted as the Rules of the Lookout Mountain Judicial Circuit. All
counsel and parties shall strictly adhere to the provisions of the Rules as amended and referenced
herein.

Attorneys SHALL attend mediation conferences with their clients.

In domestic relations actions parties and counsel shall strictly adhere to the provisions of
Unif. Super. Ct. R. 24.2 regarding the preparation, filing, and service of the Domestic Relations
Financial Affidavit (DRFA) and its use in the mediation process. In addition to the information
as provided for in the DRFA, and in order to maximize the opportunity of resolution of issues at
the time of mediation, each party or their counsel shall then make available to the mediator and
the opposing party or attorney additional basic financial data, including forms W-2 and forms
1099 for all income for the preceding tax year, a copy of their federal income tax return for the
past year, the most recent status reports on any form of retirement plans, IRAs or similar funds,
and other easily accumulated data.

Absent exigent circumstances, parties to a domestic relations action shall attend
mediation prior to scheduling a temporary hearing. If a party in a domestic relations matter
contends that a contested temporary hearing is required prior to mediation, the party shall allege

Filed in Clerks Office
Chattooga County, Georgia

JUL 08 2022

Minute Book 5, Page 207

JUL 01 2022

Kathy D. Page
CLERK

with particularity in that party's pleading or separate motion what exigent circumstances would warrant a temporary hearing prior to mediation.

For clarification:

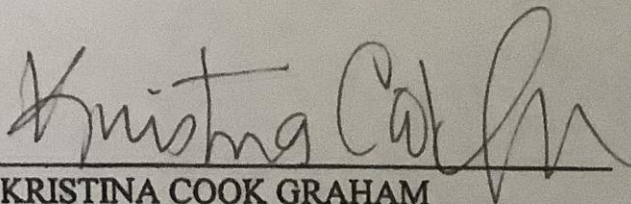
(a) Rule 2(a)(1) is amended by striking Rule 2 (a)(1) and providing in its place that unless otherwise ordered by the court, the first mediation conference shall occur within 90 days from the filing of an answer in domestic relations cases. In all cases involving an ex parte order issued by a Superior Court Judge the parties shall be entitled to a temporary hearing prior to mediation in a domestic case.

(b) Where an action is prosecuted against a public entity which is comprised of an elected body or board and the individual members are named as defendants, then the appearance requirement of Rule 8(a) shall be satisfied if the mediation conference is attended by the parties' attorney and designated representative of the entity which is a party. In these particular actions "full authority to settle" would be construed as the authority to make a recommendation subject to approval by a governing authority, elected body, or board.

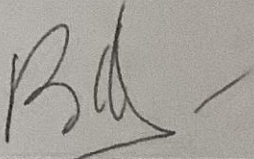
(c) The neutral may file a motion for fees with the Court against one or both parties for failure to compensate the neutral (when not approved for a fee waiver), which will require said party or parties to appear before the assigned judge at a rule nisi hearing. It is the policy of the Court not to finalize cases in which the mediator has not been paid.

Provided, however, that it shall be the responsibility of the mediator to file a motion apprising the Court of any outstanding balance due.

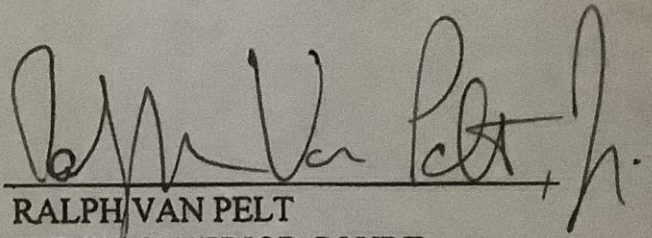
SO ORDERED, this 16 day of ^{July}~~April~~, 2022.



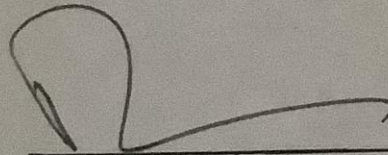
KRISTINA COOK GRAHAM
CHIEF JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT
LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



BRIAN M. HOUSE
JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT
LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



RALPH VAN PELT
JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT
LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT



DON W. THOMPSON
JUDGE, SUPERIOR COURT
LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
JUDICIAL CIRCUIT