

# PROBATE MEDIATORS

1 PAMELA (PAM) ANDERSON

770-888-7150

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- **Areas of Experience:** Divorce, custody, parenting time, contempt, modification, legitimation, same sex cases, domestic violence, business dissolution, workplace mediation, juvenile deprivation, and landlord tenant.
- **Professional Experience:** Mediated several thousand cases since 1998. Mediation trainer since 2001; Founder of Resolve to Solve, Inc. in 2001. Adjunct at Lanier Technical College, registered with Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution, Parent Coordinator and Divorce Coach since 2005. Pam is on the rosters in Cobb, Fulton, DeKalb and mediates in Gwinnett, Forsyth, Cherokee, Hall and throughout the 9th District as well.
- **Education:** BS Poli Kennesaw State, Magna cum Laude 1998. Masters in Human Resource Management, Keller School of Management, with Distinction, 2005.
- **ADR Fees:** \$300 per hour, 2 hour minimum. \$600 if cancelled within 48 hours or no show. Accepts Visa, Master Card, Amex, Discover, Zelle, Venmo and Cash App.
- Ms. Anderson will continue to offer mediation on the Zoom platform.
- **Email:** [resolvetosolve@yahoo.com](mailto:resolvetosolve@yahoo.com)
- **Website:** [www.resolve2solve.com](http://www.resolve2solve.com)

2 CHRIS CHAPPELL, ESQ.

678-749-4013

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- **Areas of Experience:** Family Law (divorce, custody, child support); Contracts(breach, damages, formation); Landlord/Tenant; Construction Law; Business Law; Wills and Estates.
- **ADR Experience:** Began mediating cases part time starting in 2005 and full time since 2013. Has mediated various General/Civil Cases and Domestic cases. Mediation experience includes Magistrate, Superior, and Appeals court mediations. Excels at tailoring and adapting methods and techniques towards each unique mediation session and each parties needs.
- **Professional Experience:** Began Law practice with a focus on Family, Business, and Real Estate Law. Has been a practicing attorney 5 years.
- **Education:** J.D. Mississippi College School of law, (2011). B.S. Kennesaw State University, Political Science with minor in Alternative Dispute Resolution(2005). General Civil Training in mediation(2005 and 2013). Divorce and Family Mediation Training (2014). Specialized Issues in Domestic Violence (2017).
- **ADR Fees:** \$200.00 per hour; \$400.00 cancellation fee if less than 24 hour notice. Accepts Cash, Check, Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover Card. Available nights and weekends.
- **Email:** [cchappell54@gmail.com](mailto:cchappell54@gmail.com)

- **Areas of Experience:** Family Law (divorce, custody, child support); Probate Law; Wills and Estates, Contracts (breach, damages, formation); Landlord/Tenant; Construction Law; Business Law.
- **ADR Experience:** Registered as a Neutral with the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution for General Civil as well as Domestic Law Mediation.
- **Professional Experience:** Probate Court Judge January 2001- Present, Magistrate Court Judge 2012- Present
- **Education:** Associates Degree Business Administration, B.S. Criminal Justice, MPA Columbus State University.
- **ADR Fees:** \$250.00 per hour with 2 hour minimum; \$200.00 cancellation fee if less than 24 hour notice.
- **Email:** [crossroadsfamilymediation@gmail.com](mailto:crossroadsfamilymediation@gmail.com)
- **Website:** <http://crossroadsfamilymediation.com>

- **Areas of Experience:** Domestic, Commercial-business to business, construction, employment, and discrimination.
- **ADR Experience:** Registered as a mediator-neutral with the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution. Ms. Clanton has been mediation cases since 1978. She is a member of the Panel of Neutrals with Henning Mediation & Arbitration Services, Inc., Atlanta. President of the Georgia Council for Dispute Resolution, 40 hours training for certification, Atlanta Justice Center, 40 hours Domestic Training, Betty Manly.
- **Professional Experience:** 1984-1988: President, Legal Ease, Inc. Atlanta, Ga. 1988-1993: Vice President, MLQ Attorney Services, Inc., Atlanta, GA. 1993-1998: Vice President, DeopNet, Inc., Atlanta, GA. 1998-Present: President, eNeutral, Inc. a subsidiary of Henning Mediation & Arbitration Services, Inc. Atlanta, GA, Videoconference Dispute Resolution.
- **Education:** Samford University, Graduate Studies. NC State University, Graduate Studies.
- **ADR Fees:** \$100 per party per hour, 2 hour minimum.

- **Areas of Experience:** 30 years' experience specializing in Family Law/Domestic Relations (Divorce, Custody, Child Support, Parenting Time, Domestic Violence, Juvenile Deprivation, Guardian ad Litem), including Probate, Estate Planning, Contracts, Real Estate, Personal Injury, Landlord/Tenant, Collections and Employment cases.
- **ADR Experience:** Ms. Ernst mediates 4-6 family law cases per week for lawyers with pending court cases and parties wishing to settle prior to filing. She's mediated thousands of divorce, custody, child support and complex domestic relations cases throughout Georgia, in-person and online. Watch her video on virtual mediation at <https://julieernst.com/zoom-tips>.

With over 300 hours of advanced training, she's authorized to mediate Domestic Relations, Domestic Violence and Juvenile Deprivation cases. She's trained mediators, judged mediation competitions, consults on how to negotiate most effectively, and serves as Guardian ad Litem. A member of the Family Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia, Forsyth Bar Association, Atlanta Bar Association and Gwinnett Bar Association, she's certified to be selected by the parties and is approved to accept court-referred mediations in the Sixth, Seventh, Ninth and Tenth Districts of Georgia, as well as Fulton, Dekalb, Gwinnett, Clayton and Cobb Counties. Through <https://agreetodivorce.com/>, Ms. Ernst works with couples to settle all issues before filing for divorce and provides flat fee uncontested and cooperative divorces.

- **Professional Experience:** Private Practice in Divorce, Family Law and Mediation services since 1999, including flat fee uncontested and cooperative divorce. Supervising and Staff Attorney for Georgia Legal Services Program, Inc., 1995 to 1999. Assistant Public Defender, Northern Judicial Circuit 1994-1995. Tobin & Hoffspiegel 1993-1994.
- **Education:** Georgia State University, College of Law, J.D., 1994. Miami University, School of Arts & Sciences, B.A., 1989.
- **ADR Fees:** \$300.00 per hour, minimum 2-hours, Credit/Debit cards accepted, 2-hour fee for cancellations less than 48 hours prior to session.
- **Email:** [julie@agreetodivorce.com](mailto:julie@agreetodivorce.com)
- **Website:** To check availability and schedule mediation: <https://julieernst.com>; For those interested in divorce: <https://agreetodivorce.com>

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6 EDWARD L. HARTNESS

770-540-7415

- **Areas of Experience:** General civil matters: contracts, corporation, commercial, negligence, personal injury, real property, zoning, land use, condemnations, HOA disputes, trusts, estates, municipal government matters, landlord/tenant, banking; Domestic matters: divorce, custody, support and modification, and; Criminal law.
- **Areas of Experience:** All matters arising in probate, State and Superior Court, including but not limited to domestic relations, custody, contracts, corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies, business disputes, real property disputes, personal injury, commercial, construction, wills, trusts, estate and probate law, and general civil litigation.
- **ADR Experience:** Certified as a general mediator and as a domestic mediator.
- **Professional Experience:** General trial practice for 44 years since June of 1974, trying numerous cases in all of the above areas, with a concentration in family law and domestic relations.
- **Education:** University of Georgia, BBA in 1971, University of Georgia School of Law, J.D. in 1974
- **ADR Fees:** \$125.00 per hour per party, 2 hour minimum, \$250.00 cancellation fee within 2 days of mediation.
- **Email:** [elhartness@bellsouth.net](mailto:elhartness@bellsouth.net)

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7 MELISSA HEARD

770-778-7618(CELL) 404-523-8236 x204(OFFICE)

- **Areas of Experience:** Family matters (however family is defined), divorce, custody, legitimation, parenting time, modification, contempt, IPVA (domestic violence), workplace,

Juvenile delinquency and dependency, probate, landlord tenant and other case types. In court connected and private cases, military, federal, state and local agencies.

- **Professional Experience:** Mediating since 1991, providing services in several thousand cases across various case types, states, and countries.  
As of January 2024, Melissa has become the Executive Director of the Justice Center of Atlanta, Inc. and will be providing services under the non-profit. Mediation Trainer since 1999; Success Consulting & Mediation founder in private practice as a neutral and consultant since 2000; FEMA Reservist with the ADR Cadre serving disaster staff and survivors across the country since 2017; and Registered with the Georgia Commission in the following categories: General Civil, Domestic Relations, Specialized Domestic Violence, Probate, Special Education, Delinquency and Dependency Mediation.
- **Education:** Brenau University (Women's College) 1992 BA; University of Tennessee, Knoxville – College of Social Work 1994 1994 MSSW.
- **ADR Fees:** Half day (\$800.00) or Full day (\$1,500.00) rate. Accepts checks and credit card payments. Zoom platform and in person available.
- **Email:** melissa@justicecenter.org

8 JORGIA C. NORTHRUP, ESQ.

470-272-8062

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- **Areas of Expertise:** Probate matters including wills and estates, guardianships, and conservatorships; Family Law matters including divorce, child custody, child support, modifications; General Civil matters.
- **ADR Experience:** Registered with the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution in Civil and Domestic Mediation, including Specialized Domestic Violence Mediation, and non-binding Arbitration. Also listed with Gwinnett County Court System's ADR Office and Cobb County Court System's ADR Office. Have mediated over 40 cases to date.
- **Professional Experience:** *Registered Neutral - January 2021 through present. Trained with Henning Mediation, the Justice Center of Atlanta, the American Bar Association, and the Dispute Resolution Section of the State Bar of Georgia (ICLE). Associate Judge, Gwinnett County Probate Court – June 2019 through retirement in July 2020, and part-time in fall of 2020 and early 2021; sat by designation in 2023 and 2024. Appointed by Gwinnett Probate Judge Christopher A. Ballar. Heard and decided matters involving adult and minor conservatorships and guardianships, decedent estates, and mental health involuntary commitments. Senior Staff Attorney, Superior Court of Gwinnett County, Judge Tom Davis – 2006 through 2018. Drafted judicial orders, (civil, criminal, and domestic) for review and signature; conducted research; reviewed pleadings; assisted public and attorneys with procedural issues. Also served as Staff Attorney for Magistrate Court and Probate Court during 20 years of service with Gwinnett County. Associate, Thompson & Sweeny, P.C. for six years specializing in school law and municipal law*
- **Education:** Georgia State University College of Law – Juris Doctor, January 1993. Davidson College – Bachelor of Arts with Honors in Psychology, May 1984.
- **ADR Fees:** \$250.00 per hour. Will provide services in person or by Zoom.
- **Email:** Jorgia.Northrup@gmail.com      **ADR Office of Jorgia Northrup, LLC**

- **Areas of Experience:** Divorce, custody, parenting time, child support, contempt, modification, legitimation, same sex cases, domestic violence, and landlord tenant
- **Professional Experience:** Mediated hundreds of cases since registering with the GODR as a mediator in 2016. Associate Mediation Trainer with Resolve to Solve, Inc. since 2017. In addition to the 9th District, Hannah is also on the Cobb, Dekalb, Gwinnett, and 7th District ADR lists. Mediates both in person and virtually.
- **Education:** Studied Political Science and Cognitive Science at the University of Georgia (2015). Obtained a Master's in Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation from Abilene Christian University (2017)
- **ADR Fees:** \$275 per hour, 2 hour minimum. \$600 if cancelled within 48 hours or no show. Accepts Visa, Master Card, Amex, Discover, Zelle, Venmo and Cash App.
- **Email:** [resolvetosolve.hannah@yahoo.com](mailto:resolvetosolve.hannah@yahoo.com)
- **Website:** [resolve2solve.com](http://resolve2solve.com)
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- **Areas of Experience:** Domestic, Landlord/Tenant, Workplace and Probate disputes.
- **ADR Experience:** General civil, domestic, domestic violence, workplace disputes. Also trained in Probate and Juvenile Delinquency and Deprivation.
- **Professional Experience:** Mediator, Arbitrator, Attorney, Adjunct Professor of Dispute Resolution, Director of Fulton Landlord/Tenant Mediation Program.
- **Education:** Bachelor of Science, Florida State University. Juris Doctor, Georgia State University College of Law.
- **ADR Fees:** \$325.00 per hour with a minimum of 2 hours; a 2-hour fee will be charged against the cancelling party if cancelled less than 72 hours of session. Payment can be made by cash, Zelle, or credit card.
- **Email:** [bonnie@powelladr.com](mailto:bonnie@powelladr.com)

- **Areas of Expertise:** General Civil Mediation; Divorce & Family Mediation, Domestic Relations and Domestic Violence Mediation; Juvenile Delinquency & Juvenile Dependency, and Probate.
- **ADR Experience:** Experience: Over 200 mediations yearly in Magistrate and Superior Courts and through privately scheduled appointments. On-line mediation available.
- **Professional Experience:** Owner of Doll Ritchie & Associates, LLC. Certified as neutral mediator. Certified as Executive Coach through The Hudson Institute of Santa Barbara. Somatic Awareness Coach. In-depth experience in employer/employee conflict resolution; landlord disputes, contractor and subcontractor disputes, estate disputes, real estate and insurance settlements, contract grievance management and labor bargaining process. Patient & long-term care advocacy. Over twenty-five years as senior executive Human Resources Leader with large, multi-

campus healthcare organizations and fifteen years HR professional in Fortune 100 manufacturing & distributions systems.

- **Education:** Social Work & Psychology, Huntingdon College, B.A.; Organizational & Management Development, Brenau University, M.Ed. Civil General Mediation training at JW Fanning Institute, Arbitration and Domestic Relations Mediation at Henning Mediation Services, Domestic Violence & Family Mediation at Resolve to Solve, Inc. Juvenile Delinquency & Juvenile Dependency and Probate at The Hull Law Firm.
- **ADR Fees:** \$200.00 per hour/2 hour minimum; 48 hour or cancellation fee of \$200
- **Method of payment:** Cash, Check, and Credit/Debit card
- **Email:** Rit329d@gmail.com

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12 JOSHUA WELCH, ESQ.

770-535-0225

- **Experience:** Joshua was born and raised in North Georgia. He currently lives in Braselton with his wife and children. Joshua served in the United States Marine Corps in the aviation field for six years. Joshua has experience in all manner of domestic relations litigation, including divorce; child custody, visitation, and child support; alimony and spousal support; paternity issues and legitimation of children; post-divorce issues; grandparent and third party custody/visitation; child welfare and advocacy; and personal injury actions.  
Ninth District Opportunity Board Member  
Georgia Association of Counsel for Children (GACC) Board Member  
State Bar of Georgia; Georgia Court of Appeals; U.S. District Court, Northern District of Georgia; Supreme Court of Georgia; American Bar Association; Gainesville Bar Association (Northeastern Judicial Circuit)''
- **Education:** J.D., John Marshall Law School; B.A., North Georgia College and State University
- **ADR Fees:** \$250 per hour, 2-hour minimum, Accepts Cash, Check, or Card. 3% processing Fee for use of Card. \$200 cancellation fee if cancelled within 2 business days

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13 MICHELLE E. WEST, ESQ.

404-441-4612

- **Areas of ADR Experience:** Collection, Construction, Contracts, Corporate, Civil (General), Domestic, Domestic Violence Insurance, Landlord-Tenant, Employment Law, Labor/management, Personal Injury, Property, Juvenile, Probate, Workplace.
- **Experience:** Ms. West is a registered neutral with the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution in civil and domestic matters. She offers both private and court ordered mediation. Ms. West has over 20 years of experience in practicing law in Georgia and over 15 years in mediation. She has practiced in the areas of family law, immigration, real-estate, landlord-tenant, estate planning, probate and small business. Ms. West is also a trained Guardian Ad Litem and Arbitrator, a member of the Gwinnett County Bar Association, and a past President of the Georgia Association for Woman Lawyers, Statewide and Gwinnett Chapter. She also has experience in mediating international child abduction cases pursuant to the Hague Convention.
- **Professional Experience:**
- 2023 – Present: Gwinnett County Magistrate Judge (Part-time). Designated to sit in Superior Court; State Court; Probate Court and Juvenile Court

- 2022 – Present: MeWe Consults, LLC, Founder and Principal
- 2019 – 2022: State Bar of Georgia, Director, Institute of Continuing Legal Education, Atlanta, GA
- 2013 – 2019: State Bar of Georgia, Director, Transition into Law Practice Program, Atlanta, GA
- 2006 - 2014: M. West Legal, LLC, Lilburn, GA
- 2005 – 2006: Law Office of Green & Associates, Atlanta, GA
- 2002- 2005: Georgia Legal Services, Gainesville, GA
- **Education:** Emory University School of Law, J.D., 2002; Georgetown University, B.S.F.S., 1997
- **ADR Fees:** \$200 per hour, virtual or in-person. Accepts cash and credit cards
- **Email:** [michelle@meweconsults.com](mailto:michelle@meweconsults.com)