

POSSIBLE MEDIATION TOPICS (Parentage)

I. Issue of Parentage

II. Parenting Plan

A. Decision-Making

1. Responsibility for Making “Major Upbringing” Decisions
 - a) Religious/Spiritual
 - b) Health/Medical
 - c) Educational (public v. private; school / day care choice & locations; approach to teacher/activity communications)
2. Responsibility for Day-to-Day (Routine) Matters
3. “Hybrid”-type Decisions
 - a) Restrictions & Discipline Across Timesharing?
 - b) Major Appearance Changes
 - c) Special Issues (third parties, parent behaviors, etc.)
4. Other Decision-Related
 - a) Access to Professionals & Records
 - b) Emergency Authority
 - c) Alternative Dispute Resolution Commitments
 - d) Relocation (process, distance triggering, etc.)

B. Sharing Time with Children

1. Ordinary Schedule During School Year
(see our website materials regarding some possible Parenting Time Plan **Options** for Children of School Age)

2. Approach to Sharing Holidays & Special Occasions
 - a) Major Holidays
 - b) School Breaks (for children of school age) including Summer Vacation
 - c) Children's & Parent's Birthdays
 - d) "Reverse" Vacations (special time assigned solely to other parent)
 - e) Transportation Responsibilities
- C. Child Support
- D. Monthly Obligation
 1. Amount for Basic Support Needs
 2. When Paid (installments, due dates, commencing date)
 3. How Paid (direct by check, electronic funds transfer, income assignment, through registry)
 4. Scope of Payment (agreements re sharing of special activity expenses)
 5. Modification (approach re exchange of information)
- E. Health Insurance
 1. Responsibility
 2. Sharing of Extraordinary Expenses
- F. Life Insurance
- G. Higher Education (*if agreed*)
 1. Approach (savings plan, responsibility on matriculation)
 2. Schooling Covered (includes vocational, artistic as well as traditional undergraduate? length of commitment)
 3. Sharing Method
 4. Costs Limitation (designated School benchmark, absolute amount)

III. Special Issues

- A. Costs of Genetic Testing
- B. Uninsured Costs of Pregnancy-Related Medical Care

IV. Taxes

- A. Head of Household Filing Status (& child care credit)
- B. Dependent Exemptions

Comments

This is a broad but not comprehensive outline of topics you may discuss and resolve in mediation of your parentage issues.

We can understand better whether any particular subject is important or necessary to your discussions as we meet, and we can often help you understand easier ways to obtain information you need, but that is not readily available.

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Mediators

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