

## **Mediation vs. Litigation**

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A contested divorce does not have to turn into a vicious court battle, as many couples in Arizona find a good alternative to litigation in the mediation process. Mediation can take a variety of forms, and it is almost always less adversarial than traditional dissolution proceedings. Through mediation, couples can resolve their disputes and negotiate the terms of their divorce without setting foot in a courtroom.

Throughout the mediation process, spouses meet together with a third-party mediator to work through the pending dissolution. The mediator remains in a position of neutrality and provides each spouse with the information necessary for them to reach their stated goals. Those who want specific legal counsel can retain an attorney to represent their interests throughout the mediation process, but they are not required to do so.

As a viable alternative to litigation in a contested divorce, couples should consider mediation services. A good family law lawyer can assist in the identification and selection of an appropriate mediator.

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Timothy Durkin joined JacksonWhite in 2010, and quickly established himself as a highly effective family law attorney with the perfect balance of assertiveness and compassion. Tim is often complimented for his dedication to professional service, as he works closely with his clients to keep them informed, listen to their needs and involve them in the decision making process.

Tim handles all types of family law, including divorces, paternity actions, child custody, child support, relocation and jurisdiction issues, adoptions, termination of parental rights and parental severance actions, title 8 guardianships, spousal maintenance cases, division of marital property and debts, pre-nuptial agreements, post decree modifications and enforcement of custody and divorce orders, mediation services, grandparent visitation cases, and domestic violence issues. He is licensed to practice law in all Arizona State Courts, as well as the United States District Court, District of Arizona, and serves clients throughout the Phoenix metro area. To read more about what former clients are saying about hiring Tim, or to set up a free consultation, please visit [www.jacksonwhitelaw.com/arizona-family-law](http://www.jacksonwhitelaw.com/arizona-family-law).

Founded in 1983, JacksonWhite P.C. offers a full -range of services to assist individuals, families and businesses with their legal needs. Since its inception, the Mesa firm has grown steadily to include 22 highly experienced attorneys and over 40 paralegals, legal assistants and staff. At this size the firm is large enough to offer the efficiency and technical expertise of larger firms, yet small enough to provide clients with individualized, personalized attention. JacksonWhite has multiple offices around the state of Arizona including Mesa, Casa Grande and Peoria locations. For more information on a specific attorney or area of practice, please visit [www.jacksonwhitelaw.com](http://www.jacksonwhitelaw.com) or [www.jacksonwhitelaw.com/arizona-family-law](http://www.jacksonwhitelaw.com/arizona-family-law).