



Erickson Counseling & Mediation PLLC

11107 McCracken Circle #A Cypress, TX 77429

Ericksoncounseling.com

832-455-5729

We, _____ and _____, have entered into an agreement with Erickson Counseling & Mediation PLLC to serve as a Parenting Coordinator/Facilitator for us and our child(ren). This agreement shall serve as a binding contract.

GENERAL

1. We understand that it is in the children's best interests that parents do not engage in outward and excessive conflict. To that end we will attempt to resolve disagreements whenever possible.
2. The Parent Coordinator/Facilitator may provide education about child development and communication. He may coach us to better communicate with each other and our child(ren), and he may refer us to other professionals as indicated.
3. We intend to work with our Parent Coordinator/Facilitator to resolve our issues in a mutually satisfactory manner between ourselves whenever possible. If any issue cannot be resolved between us, then the Parenting Coordinator/Facilitator shall hear from each party and any third party who, in her opinion, can be helpful to him in his role. These third parties may include, but may not be limited to, the child(ren), teachers, medical/mental health care providers, caregivers, attorneys, or any parties who, in his opinion, might be helpful to the decision-making process. We agree to sign any necessary authorizations for the release of requested information.
4. If, in his opinion, the decision under consideration cannot be made without consultation with a newly appointed additional professional (i.e. testing psychologist or educational consultant), we understand that the Parenting Coordinator/facilitator may not be able to render a recommendation without our agreement to hire and work with said professional.
5. We agree to treat the Parent Coordinator/Facilitator with respect and give thoughtful consideration to any recommendations made by the Parent Coordinator/Facilitator.
6. The disputes that may be submitted to the Parenting Coordinator/Facilitator for recommended resolution are:
 - Any disputes about parenting time, including but not limited to changes in the regular schedule, parental access for special occasions, holidays, or vacations.
 - Any disputes regarding the child(ren)'s activities or schooling.
 - Any disputes related to the child(ren)'s medical/mental health issues.
 - Any other substantive child-related matter upon which we cannot agree.

NOTE: The Parenting Coordinator/Facilitator cannot recommend changes in the percentage of time that the child(ren) spend with each parent, nor regarding the fundamental status of custody.



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7. Appointments or telephone contacts with the Parenting Coordinator/Facilitator may be scheduled at the request of either party. All parties agree to make a good faith effort to be available when contacts are requested.

8. Parenting Coordination is 100% confidential. Parenting Facilitation is not. Since the appointment of a Parent Facilitator is either court ordered, recommended by a guardian ad litem, or a stipulation between us, we understand that the process of facilitation is not confidential. We understand that memos to the court and attorneys may be sent by our Parent Facilitator, if requested or if we reach an impasse. Additionally, either party may subpoena the Parenting Facilitator to appear in court.

9. This contract cannot cover all the particulars that may arise in every situation. We understand that the Parenting Coordinator/Facilitator may need to establish new rules and guidelines to fit our unique situation and relationship. The fundamental principles governing all rules and guidelines are 1) minimization of conflict and 2) decision-making in the best interests of the child(ren).

10. The Parent Coordinator/Facilitator may withdraw from his appointment at any time. In that event, he may suggest the names of other potential Parenting Coordinators/Facilitators and will notify contracted parties.

11. Erickson Counseling & Mediation PLLC's role as Parenting Coordinator/Facilitator may not be terminated unilaterally by either party. It may be terminated by written agreement of both parties at any time. However, if a court order appointing ECM as our Parent Coordinator/Facilitator is in effect, it will be the parties' responsibility to take the necessary measures to vacate that appointment. If one party wishes to terminate the services of the Parenting Coordinator/Facilitator over the objections of the other party, an order of the court will be required to remove him.



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Parenting Coordination/Facilitation Fee Scale:

1. Depositions, court testimony, and transportation to the latter will be billed at a rate of \$150 per hour. Fees for depositions and testimony must be received two weeks prior to the scheduled date and will be charged in blocks of three hours including travel (with three hours being the minimum block of time). There is a no-refund policy for depositions and court testimony: once ECM has agreed to appear and the fee is paid, it is non-refundable under any circumstance.

2. Upon the signing of this contract, the Parenting Coordinator/Facilitator shall be paid a retainer of \$600. Each of you will receive, on a monthly basis, an itemized statement of account, with the costs being deducted from the retainer account. When the account falls below _____ a further retainer will be requested and shall be paid or services may be suspended. At the end of the Parent Coordination process, any amounts remaining in the retainer account shall be returned to you.

3. If an appointment is cancelled with less than 24 business hours notice the full fee for the appointment will be charged. If one party cancels an appointment with fewer than 24 hours notice or fails to show up for an appointment, that party will be responsible for the full fee for that session.

Parenting Coordination/Facilitation Fee Scale:

Intake session:	\$200 flat rate (\$100 per party)
Retainer:	\$600
Parenting Coordination/Facilitation (per session)	\$200 flat rate per session (\$100 per party)
Email monitoring:	\$50 per email
Court Reports:	\$150 per hour minimum one (1) hour
Court Appearance:	\$150 per hour minimum three (3) hours.
Phone Calls:	Phone calls over 15 minutes will be billed at \$50 per 15 minutes.

Name of Mother _____

Signature of Mother _____

Date _____

Name of Father _____

Signature of Father _____

Date _____