



There are an estimated 66 million cases¹ brought each year in state and local courts. Excluding traffic and criminal cases, about 26% are community or business cases, or family disputes – that’s 17,160,000 cases, or 68,640 cases per day for every working day in the year where mediation might help. And those are just the disputes that made it to the courthouse.

So why do we have mediators unable to attract sufficient case volume to sustain a practice?

Our Mission

ShareMediation’s objective is to promote public awareness and utilization of mediation as an effective means of resolving conflicts. We hope to engage dispute resolution practitioners nationwide in a unified, week-long public education campaign.

Our goal is to inform individuals in our communities about the benefits of mediation, foster a culture of peaceful conflict resolution, and empower individuals and organizations to choose collaboration over confrontation. By spreading knowledge and offering skilled resources, we aim to create a more harmonious, efficient, and understanding society.

The Methodology

The ShareMediation project is designed to leverage the presence of ADR practitioners all over the country. We are reaching them by asking over 120 ADR organizations at every level to help us by passing along our message to their members. That message asks each practitioner to commit to making at least one public presentation on the benefits of mediation to any group or audience they choose – online or in person – during the week of October 18 – 24. We ask that when they commit to such a presentation that they register the event on our website, www.ShareMediation.com, so that we can create a centralized record of the collective efforts of hundreds of practitioners. With enough momentum, we hope to attract national media attention to the story of how mediation can improve our relationships, commerce and our courts.

¹ Michelle Russell and Ruth Rosenthal, *State Courts Play a Key Role in American Life*, Pew Organization Issue Brief, October 17, 2024, <https://www.pew.org/en/research-and-analysis/issue-briefs/2024/10/state-courts-play-a-key-role-in-american-life>

It's a 3-way Win

When a practitioner commits to talking to a business group, or a civic organization, church group or PTA about mediation it's a 3-way win. The community benefits when the audience learns that mediation offers an attractive alternative to litigation. The profession wins when a few more people are aware of what mediators do and the impact they can have. And the practitioner wins with a bit of soft-selling. Without saying, "Hire me" they have made more people in their sphere aware of their skills and services.

We are Trying to Make it Easy

Visit the website at www.ShareMediation.com. There you can share a presentation deck you have created for others to download, edit and use. Or download one someone else has shared. Share data that may be helpful such as the study cited in the opening paragraph of this handout. Or use one of the suggested AI prompts to get an AI bot to create a presentation for you.

Don't know who to try to speak to? The Resource tab even has a list of common civic organizations found in big cities and small towns alike. Most would welcome a public service presentation at one of their periodic meetings.

On the website you'll also find the commitments others have made to outreach in their communities, and a list of the organizations who have agreed to be a part of this project. We're just getting started but there is a terrific community of committed service providers spread throughout the country. Let's unite to make the practice of mediation a part of everyone's life. Please join us and make your commitment today.

Questions: Send us at note at mail@sharemediation.com

Here are some of the organizations supporting ShareMediation Week.
This is not a complete list with new commitments arriving daily.



ADR Notable

