

5.3 | COMPENSATION OF MEDIATORS

A. Mediators shall receive \$150/hour for the first two hours of the initial mediation session. Thereafter, Mediators shall receive no more than their Court-approved hourly rates for time spent in mediation and preparation.

B. Mediators may require that counsel and/or parties sign an agreement confirming the terms of retention and compensation.

C. Mediator fees shall be divided equally among all separately represented parties, unless otherwise agreed or ordered by the Court.

D. A party who has been granted in forma pauperis status is automatically relieved of his or her pro rata share of the Mediator's fee. All other parties shall continue to bear their pro rata portions of the fee.

E. A party who has not sought in forma pauperis status, but is financially unable to pay all or part of the pro rata share of the Mediator's fee, may move for a waiver of the fee requirement on a form provided by the Court.

F. All Mediation Panel members must provide pro bono services. The minimum service requirement is one pro bono case or two reduced compensation cases for every four (4) fully-compensated cases for which the Mediator is selected. Additional pro bono service is encouraged.

*(US District Court, New York, Western District // Buffalo, NY 14202
Judy Hernandez, Staff Attorney)*

