## **Mediation Strategy**

2019 Car Crash Seminar

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## **Topics**

- What does the Mediator need?
- What do "the others" need?
- What helps? What doesn't? Some Ideas...

## Gimme, Gimme, I Need, I Need

- Submissions/Telephone Conferences/Emails
- How many people/parties/alignments (active participants v. indemnified parties)
- · Who is attending?
  - In person vs. Telephone/Video-conference.
    - Prior agreement between parties is a MUST. Can lead to instant end to mediation.
    - Plaintiffs with little exception, you really...really want them present (they can hang up on you)
    - Adjusters prefer present. Make sure they are going to be available.
      - Warm body/stand in model vs. actual adjuster.
  - Others that should attend anyone who plays any role in the decision
    - The dreaded last minute call to the spouse/uncle/cousin who thinks he's a lawyer, etc.
    - These people need to be a part of the process. You need to identify if they exist.

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## Gimme, I Need, I Need

- If not attending, who else needs to be readily available?
  - Anyone who has their hand out wanting a piece/say of the pie (pref. addressed pre-mediation)
    - Health Insurance Subrogation
    - Medical Providers Hospital Liens, chiro's, PT, etc.
    - Workers Comp Adjusters Statutory liens
    - Partners, Corp higher ups, HR, spouses, etc.
    - You don't want to get to the end of a mediation and have puzzle pieces missing
- Case Background
  - Timeline = Deadlines, Trial Date, Depositions (have parties met?)
  - Prior Offers/Demands
  - · Who are the lawyers?
  - · Who is carrier? What office is handling claim? Differences b/w carriers and current approach to claims
  - Brief Factual & Legal issues in dispute
    - Bring focus to those issues, avoid distraction, are those the real issues?
  - BRING YOUR RECORDS!!





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Title search: Mediation Strategy

Also available as part of the eCourse

<u>Car Crash Case Strategies: Judicial and Mediator Perspectives</u>

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the 2019 Car Crash Seminar session
"View From the Mediator"