**DISTRICT COURT ADMINISTRATION**

Woodbury County Courthouse, Room 210, 620 Douglas • Sioux City, Iowa 51101 • (712) 279-6035 • Fax (712) 279-6631

• Pam Calhoun, Acting District Court Administrator • E-mail [Pam.Calhoun@iowacourts.gov](mailto:Leesa.McNeil@iowacourts.gov) • 712/279-6035

Updated May 9, 2018

**Alternatives to court resolution of disputes**

### MEDIATION OF CASES

Judges may order mediation and parties may consent to mediate some or all of the issues pending in a case. Mediation is a process in which an impartial third party facilitates communication and negotiation and promotes voluntary decision-making by the parties to the dispute. The attorneys and non attorneys that are listed in the mediation section below have consented to have contact information listed identifying them as mediators. Those attorneys listed in the column labeled “Participate in pilot” have consented to do mediations as ordered by the court and to perform at least one mediation at no cost to the parties for qualifying cases. (An application for a free mediation session must be filed along with a financial affidavit. Forms are available at: http://www.iowacourts.gov/About\_the\_Courts/District\_Courts/District\_Three/News\_and\_Announcements/)

**COLLABORATIVE LAW**

Parties may also elect to utilize collaborative law (also called collaborative practice). It is a legal process enabling couples who have decided to separate or end their marriage to work with their lawyers and, on occasion, other professionals in order to avoid the uncertain outcome of court and to achieve a settlement that best meets the specific needs of both parties and their children without the underlying threat of contested litigation. The voluntary process is initiated when the couple signs a contract (called the "participation agreement"), binding each other to the process and disqualifying their respective lawyer's right to represent either one in any future family related litigation. The collaborative process can be used to facilitate a broad range of other family issues, including disputes between parents and the drawing up of pre and post-marital contracts. The traditional method of drawing up pre-marital contracts is oppositional, and many couples prefer to begin their married life on a better footing where documents are drawn up consensually and together. For more information on collaborative law, please visit the Northwest Iowa Collaborative Law Professionals’ website at [http://www.nwiacollaborate.org](http://www.nwiacollaborate.org/)

**Not a court endorsement:** Please note that the court is not endorsing any of the attorneys/non-attorney mediators/collaborative lawyers listed below. This information is being supplied as a public service to assist parties in making decisions about their individual case. Any party to an action should consult with their attorney prior to making important decisions about their case. Individuals that are available to assist parties with mediation and collaborative law are listed below.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ATTORNEY MEDIATORS** | **ADDRESS** | **TELEPHONE**  **e-mail** | **RATE** | **Participate in pilot?** |
| Steve Allen | 906 – 9th St., Onawa 51040 | 712-423-2006  [allenlaw@onawave.net](mailto:allenlaw@onawave.net) | Flexible, $120 per hr plus exp. | Yes |
| Frank Baron | 750 Pierce St., PO Box 717, Sioux City, Iowa 51102-0717 | 712-277-1015  [AFBaron@baronsar.com](mailto:AFBaron@baronsar.com) | $180 per hr |  |
| Jennifer Bennett Finn | 113 North 6th Street  Estherville, IA 51334 | 712-362-7266  [jbfpelzerlaw@mchso.com](mailto:jbfpelzerlaw@mchso.com) | 130.00 per hr | Yes |
| E. S. “Manny” Bikakis | 300 Pioneer Bank Bldg., 701 Pierce St., Sioux City 51101 | 712-277-1434  [esbikakis@iabar.org](mailto:esbikakis@iabar.org) | $140 per hr |  |
| Lindsey Buchheit  Buchheit Law, PLC | 204 1st Street – Suite B3, Sergeant Bluff, Iowa 51054 | 712-823-1024  [Lindsey@Buchheitlaw.net](mailto:Lindsey@Buchheitlaw.net) | $150 per hr | Yes |
| Deborah J. Cook  Deborah J. Cook Law Firm | 401 Douglas St. Suite 108  Sioux City, 51101 | 712-204-3926  [Deborahjcooklaw@gmail.com](mailto:Deborahjcooklaw@gmail.com) | $200 per hr | Yes |
| John D. Daniels | Terra Centre-Suite 302, 600 4th Street, Sioux City, Iowa 51101 | 712-234-3010  [danielslawfirm@aol.com](mailto:danielslawfirm@aol.com) | $220 per hour plus travel at 50% |  |
| Harold D. Dawson  DeKoter, Thole & Dawson, P.L.C. | 315 Ninth Street  PO Box 253  Sibley, 51249 | 712-754-4601  [Harold@sibleylaw.com](mailto:Harold@sibleylaw.com) | $170 per hr | Yes |
| Deb De Jong | 108 Central Ave SW, PO Box 135, Orange City, IA 51041 | 712-737-4999  [Deb.DeJong@DeJongLawPC.com](mailto:Deb.DeJong@DeJongLawPC.com) | $175 per hr | Yes |
| Jay Denne | 600 4th St., Ste 303  Sioux City, Iowa 51101-1747 | 712-233-3635  [JayDenne@mrdlaw.net](mailto:JayDenne@mrdlaw.net) | $175 per hr | Yes |
| Shawna Ditsworth | 1212 18th St., Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360 | 712-336-2901  [Shawna@Shawnaditsworth.com](mailto:Shawna@Shawnaditsworth.com) | $300 for two hr session | Yes |
| F. Lee Goodwin | 750 Pierce Street, PO Box 717, Sioux City 51101 | 712-277-1015  [flgoodwin@cableone.net](mailto:flgoodwin@cableone.net) | $225 per hr |  |
| Angela Kayl | 705 Douglas Street, #635  Sioux City, 51101 | 712-277-0810  [angelakayl@kayllaw.com](mailto:angelakayl@kayllaw.com) | $100 first two hrs, then $200 | Yes |
| Lori Kolpin | PO Box 338, 136 Main St., Aurelia, Iowa 51005 | 712-229-5480  [lorijkolpinlaw@newulmtel.net](mailto:lorijkolpinlaw@newulmtel.net) | $150 per hr | Yes |
| Rosalynd J. Koob | Heidman Law  1128 Historic 4th Street  P.O. Box 3086  Sioux City IA 51102 | 712.255.8838  [Roz.koob@heidmanlaw.com](mailto:Roz.koob@heidmanlaw.com) |  |  |
| Michele Lewon | 705 Douglas St., Suite 402, Sioux City, Iowa 51101 | 712-255-8050  [MLewon@cableone.net](mailto:MLewon@cableone.net) | $200 per hr | Yes |
| Rosanne Linehard | Sioux City | 712-251-6113  [rllaw@hotmail.com](mailto:rllaw@hotmail.com) | $150 per hr + exp. | Yes |
| Lisa Mazurek | 216 W Main St, Cherokee, Iowa 51012 | 712-225-5194  [mmmpclm@ncn.net](mailto:mmmpclm@ncn.net) | $150.00 | Yes |
| **AMES**  Michael Moon  (retired judge) | 707 Crystal Street  Ames IA 50010 | 641.751.2000  [Michaelmoon930@yahoo.com](mailto:Michaelmoon930@yahoo.com) | $150 per hour |  |
| Rebecca Nelson | 522 Fourth St., Suite 300, Sioux City, Iowa 51101 | 712-277-2373  [rnelson@rawlings-law.com](mailto:rnelson@rawlings-law.com) | $200 per hr + exp. | Yes |
| Christopher Polking | 225 E. 7th St., PO Box 882, Carroll, Iowa 51401 | 712-792-1548  CPolking@polkinglaw.com | $150 per hr | Yes |
| Jim Redmond | 1128 Historic 4th Street, Box 3086, Sioux City, Iowa 51102 | 712-255-8838  [Jim.Redmond@heidmanlaw.com](mailto:Jim.Redmond@heidmanlaw.com) | First half hr free  $195 Per hr | Yes |
| Dennis R. Ringgenberg | 614 Pierce Street, PO Box 27  Sioux City, Iowa 51102-0027 | 712-277-4561  [DRinggenberg@craryhuff.com](mailto:DRinggenberg@craryhuff.com) | $200.00 per hr | Yes |
| Elizabeth Rosenbaum | 600 4th St., #1006, Sioux City 51101 | 712-233-3632  [Elizabeth@rosenbaumlawfirm.net](mailto:Elizabeth@rosenbaumlawfirm.net) | $200 per hr | Yes |
| Elizabeth Row | 501 Pierce Street, Ste 210, Sioux City 51101 | 712-252-2320  [ElizaRow@aol.com](mailto:ElizaRow@aol.com) | $175 per hr |  |
| Barry Sackett | Suite 3, 1004 21st Street, PO Box 128, Milford, Iowa 51351-0128 | 712-338-9106  [barry@ss-tlaw.com](mailto:barry@ss-tlaw.com) | $150.00 pr hr |  |
| John Sandy | 304 18th St., Box 445, Spirit Lake Iowa 51360 | [jmsandy@sandylawpractice.com](mailto:jmsandy@sandylawpractice.com)  712-336-5588 | $100 first 2 hrs then $200 per hr | Yes |
| Sabrina Sayler | 614 Pierce Street, Sioux City, Iowa 51102 | 605-232-3340  [SSayler@craryhuff.com](mailto:SSayler@craryhuff.com) | $200 per hr | Yes |
| Ron Shea  Smith, Grigg, Shea & Klinker, P.C. | Primghar, 51245 | 712-957-5465  [sgsk@tcaexpress.net](mailto:sgsk@tcaexpress.net) | $175 per hr |  |
| Liz Specketer | Storm Lake, Iowa | 712-334-0312  specketerlaw@gmail.com | $125 per hr |  |
| Mat Trotzig | 1288 Lincoln St. Se, LeMars 51031 | 712-546-8873  [matrotzig@btbattys.com](mailto:matrotzig@btbattys.com) | $200 per hr + exp. | Yes |
| Amanda Van Wyhe | 613 Pierce Street, PO Box 1557, Sioux City, IA 51102 | 712-252-3226  [avanwyhe@siouxcitylawyers.com](mailto:avanwyhe@siouxcitylawyers.com) | $175 per hr | Yes |
| Abby L. Walleck  Maahs & Walleck | 708 Lake St.,  PO Box AK  Spirit Lake, 51360 | 712-336-1292  [awalleck@spiritlakelaw.com](mailto:awalleck@spiritlakelaw.com) | $150 per hr | Yes |
| Jessica Zupp  Zupp and Zupp Law Firm | 1919 4th Avenue., South  Suite 2  Denison IA 51442 | 712.263.5551  jessica@zuppandzupp.com | $150 an hour/2 hr min. |  |
| **NON-ATTORNEY MEDIATORS** |  |  |  |  |
| Jeffrey S. Vinsonhaler | 16794 Read Road, Honey Creek, Iowa 51542 | 402-580-1177  [JeffVinsonhaler@Gmail.com](mailto:JeffVinsonhaler@Gmail.com) | $70 per hour | Yes |
| Tricia Mull-Short | TMS Mediation Service, 320 South J. Street, Indianola, IA 50125 | 515-318-8316  [TMullShort@yahoo.com](mailto:TMullShort@yahoo.com) | $75. Per hr |  |
| Hank Ostwald | Iowa Mediation Services, 20 West 6th St., #303, Spencer 51301 | 712-262-7007  h[ostwald@](mailto:ostwald@)smunet.net | $140 per hr + exp. | Yes |
| Anthony M. Sandbothe  Dignified Solutions and Resolutions, Inc. | 84 Ridgeview Road  Sioux City, 51104 | 712-301-6756  t0nysandb0the@gmail.com | $150 per hr | Yes |
| James E. Shaul | 120 N. Washington St., Papillion 68046 | 402-706-8870  [jimshaul@shaulmediation.com](mailto:jimshaul@shaulmediation.com) | Sliding scale $25 to $150 pr hr | Yes |
| Doug Smit  Hope Haven Inc. | 1800 19th St., Rock Valley, 51247 | 712-476-3162  [dsmit@hopehaven.org](mailto:dsmit@hopehaven.org) | $100 per hr+ exp |  |
| Alesha Walker | 313 E 7th St.  Logan, IA | 402-580-1147  [HelpingHandMediation@Gmail.com](mailto:HelpingHandMediation@Gmail.com) | $70 per hr | Yes |
| Kathy Mossie | 1109 S. 15th St.  Clear Lake, Iowa 50428 | 641-357-2042  [Kathy\_Mossie@cltel.net](mailto:Kathy_Mossie@cltel.net) | $100 an hr | Yes |
| Elaine C. Knudson | 2083 Glen Ellen Rd., Sergeant Bluff, Iowa 51054 | H: 712-943-5652  C: 712-281-56542  [Knudson@longlines.com](mailto:Knudson@longlines.com) | No charge | Yes |

**Attorneys practicing collaborative law:**

Attorney members are licensed member in good standing of the Iowa State Bar Association and have insurance that covers their collaborative practice, have completed a minimum of 12 hours of training in the practices of collaborative law, and are members of the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals (IACP).

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