

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Subject:		Integrating Mediation Into State Government		Number:	2002-7
Date:	June 14, 2002	Distribution:	B	By Direction Of:	 Mark S. Schweiker, Governor

WHEREAS, traditional adjudicatory processes have become increasingly costly, time consuming, and contentious; and

WHEREAS, this Administration is committed to ensuring that state departments, boards, commissions, and agencies utilize more efficient and less expensive methods of resolving disputes; and

WHEREAS, mediation is a voluntary (unless otherwise ordered), informal process through which a neutral third party (the mediator) assists the parties in reaching a mutually acceptable resolution of their dispute, and the parties themselves control the outcome as opposed to having the outcome determined by an adjudicator; and

WHEREAS, mediation offers an efficient, less expensive, and more satisfactory method for resolving disputes, and allows the process to be tailored to the disputants' needs; and

WHEREAS, an increased use of mediation by state departments, boards, commissions, and agencies will enhance the operation of state government and better serve the public; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has an interest in promoting and modeling the values, understanding, public awareness, and practice of mediation and collaborative problem solving.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark S. Schweiker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other laws, do hereby adopt the policy of integrating mediation into state government as follows:

1. Each department, board, commission, council, and agency under my jurisdiction shall become familiar with mediation, where and how it might be used and regularly explore, encourage, and facilitate its use.

2. Each department, board, commission, council, and agency under my jurisdiction shall designate a Mediation Coordinator who shall encourage and facilitate the use of mediation and report directly to the secretary, director, commissioner(s), or other designated official(s).

3. Effective Date. This order shall take effect immediately.