

## SPECIAL EDUCATION MEDIATOR LIST

(October 2016)

Special education mediations are conducted by impartial private practice attorneys who meet the standards outlined in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and additional standards set by the Texas Education Agency (TEA). Below are the names of the current mediators under contract with TEA and descriptions of their professional experience.

MEDIATOR	PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
<b>Lucius D. Bunton</b>	Mr. Bunton received his law degree from the Southern Methodist University School of Law. His practice, Law Offices of Lucius Bunton, is limited to conducting private mediations and to serving as a hearing officer and mediator in special education disputes. In addition to special education mediations, Mr. Bunton mediates civil litigation, business, employment law, real estate law, and family law disputes. He previously practiced administrative law, employment law, civil litigation, and civil rights litigation.
<b>Mary Carolyn Carmichael</b>	Ms. Carmichael received her law degree from the University of Texas School of Law. She is with the law firm of Nance & Carmichael, PC. In addition to special education mediations, Ms. Carmichael has mediated family law and children's rights matters. She has served as a special education hearing officer and also has experience in school, public utilities, administrative, disability, and employment law.
<b>Elizabeth Chappell</b>	Ms. Chappell received her law degree from the University of Texas School of Law. Her practice, Chappell Mediation, is dedicated to family-based legal services, offering mediation and legal counsel for education, divorce, parenting disputes, child custody and support, and elder care. She is a former felony and child abuse prosecutor. Ms. Chappell is a <i>Credentialed Mediator</i> with the Texas Mediator Credentialing Association and is a Texas State Board of Education Heroes for Children award recipient.
<b>Roberto M. Garcia</b>	Mr. Garcia received his law degree from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University. His practice, the Law Offices of Roberto M. Garcia, focuses on mediation, arbitration, law enforcement representation, and business organization. He has mediated labor and employment, personal injury, construction, commercial, and environmental disputes. Mr. Garcia has experience in civil litigation, school law, labor and employment law, civil rights law, and administrative hearings. He is also a <i>Credentialed Advanced Mediator</i> with the Texas Mediator Credentialing Association.
<b>Ray E. Green</b>	Mr. Green received his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law. He has been a full-time mediator since 2008 and practices mediation with the Dallas Mediation Group, whose mediators conduct business, personal injury, family law, malpractice, and employment mediations. Mr. Green also has experience in civil and family litigation, employment law, disability law, and employee grievance hearings. He is a <i>Credentialed Distinguished Mediator</i> with the Texas Mediator Credentialing Association.

<p><b>Brenda Jarden-Holter</b></p>	<p>Ms. Jarden-Holter received her law degree from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University. She is a solo practitioner and has experience conducting family law and Child Protective Services mediations. Ms. Jarden-Holter also has experience in military criminal litigation, family law, administrative law, disability law, and probate law. She is a retired U.S. Army Judge Advocate General and is a <i>Credentialed Mediator</i> with the Texas Mediator Credentialing Association.</p>
<p><b>Kimberlee K. Kovach</b></p>	<p>Ms. Kovach received her law degree from the Capital University Law School. Her practice, Kovach Dispute Resolution, focuses on mediation and arbitration. Ms. Kovach has mediated civil litigation, family, employment, and health care matters. She is a nationally and internationally recognized mediation trainer and received a Lifetime Achievement Award by the International Academy of Mediators. Ms. Kovach also has experience in civil litigation, family law, employment law, and health care matters.</p>
<p><b>Lynn E. Rubinett</b></p>	<p>Ms. Rubinett received her law degree from the Northeastern University School of Law. She has a solo law practice and also practices mediation with Lakeside Mediation Center. Ms. Rubinett has experience in civil litigation, civil rights law, labor and employment law, education law, disability rights law, and administrative law. She has served as a special education hearing officer and is a <i>Credentialed Distinguished Mediator</i> with the Texas Mediator Credentialing Association.</p>
<p><b>Brenda Rudd</b></p>	<p>Ms. Rudd received her law degree from the Texas Tech University School of Law. She is a solo practitioner. In addition to conducting special education mediations, Ms. Rudd has experience in civil and criminal litigation, family law, and administrative law. Before attending law school, she was a classroom teacher. Ms. Rudd also serves as a special education hearing officer.</p>
<p><b>Renee M. Rusch</b></p>	<p>Ms. Rusch received her law degree from Boalt Hall School of Law (UC Berkeley School of Law). She is retired from the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH), where she served as an administrative law judge and the alternative dispute resolution team leader. During her tenure at SOAH, Ms. Rusch conducted mediations involving a wide range of issues and presided over special education due process hearings. She also has experience in administrative law, civil rights law, disability law, employment law, government law, health care law, education law, and civil litigation.</p>
<p><b>Barbara L. Stroud</b></p>	<p>Ms. Stroud received her law degree from the University of Texas School of Law. Her firm, Stroud Mediation, focuses on alternative dispute resolution and limited scope representation in family law matters. She has conducted family, Child Protective Services, consumer, personal injury, and real estate mediations. Ms. Stroud also has experience in personal injury law and civil litigation. She is a <i>Credentialed Advanced Mediator</i> with the Texas Mediator Credentialing Association.</p>
<p><b>Sherry R. Wetsch</b></p>	<p>Ms. Wetsch received her law degree from the University of North Dakota School of Law. Her solo practice focuses on alternative dispute resolution. Ms. Wetsch has served as a third party neutral on a wide range of cases, including employment, securities, consumer, personal injury, construction, criminal, and business matters. Ms. Wetsch started her legal career as an attorney for the United States Department of the Army and has experience in administrative law, employment law, civil rights, and government liability. She also serves as a special education hearing officer.</p>