

WHAT IS PARENTING COORDINATION?

Parenting coordination is a child-focused alternative dispute resolution (ADR) process. When parents who are in conflict have had trouble making decisions related to their children, Parenting Coordination offers safe and neutral ground to resolve issues.

Parenting Coordinators (PC) are mental health professionals who are trained and experienced in working with families who have experienced a high degree of conflict. PCs are unbiased and neutral and work only for the best interests of the children. *It is very important to remember that a Parenting Coordinator will serve only one function in your family. A PC who is a licensed mental health professional is not your therapist and will not serve in that capacity. A PC will coordinate with other professionals in your life, but will not offer any services except the facilitation of your parenting plan.

Parent Coordinators are appointed by the Judge or are agreed upon by both parents and their attorneys. If a Judge appoints a PC, you will receive a "stipulation" explaining all relevant details about the appointment. Parenting Coordinators have both limited judicial authority and quasi-judicial immunity and can make decisions that are legally binding when parents are at an impasse.

Parenting Coordinators use a variety of skills and techniques to help parents follow their parenting plan so that families can function most effectively. All PC efforts are directed towards keeping children safe and helping bi-nuclear families to thrive.

Although PCs will protect and respect your privacy to the highest degree possible, Parenting Coordination is NOT a confidential process. The PC will use information in support of the children and will not "protect" information in the way that a therapist would in other circumstances. All parties agree in advance that this is a non-confidential relationship.