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**Mediate and Save Money-**

**By Eugene Collins**



Whenever a dispute arises and you decide to seek advice from your lawyer, in addition to deciding what your legal position is, you also need to decide how to enforce your position.

The most commonly understood way of doing this is to sue the other party. However, this is expensive and the ultimate decision is made by a third party (the Judge).

There are often cheaper ways of dealing with, and resolving disputes without the expense of a lengthy hearing and is often a much faster way of resolving such issues.

The most commonly used form of alternative dispute resolution is mediation.

This simply involves the parties and their Legal Counsel meeting around a table with an independent mediator and attempting to resolve matters by negotiation.

The advantage of this form of process is that the parties retain the power to resolve the dispute without having the ultimate resolution forced on them as in the Court process.

Of course, this involves both parties

to the dispute conceding on their position in order to resolve the dispute without the need of an expensive drawn out hearing.

The costs of the mediator are usually shared between the parties equally, as is the cost of the venue used for the mediation. It is advisable to use a neutral venue.

Mediation has become so successful in resolving disputes, that the Courts now refer parties to mediation before a matter is set down for a hearing date.

If you are involved in a dispute and would like to explore the options of mediation to resolve it, please contact Eugene or Michael.