

## COVID 19

During COVID-19, free consultations and mediation sessions are held during the day, early evenings, and on some weekends via Zoom video or phone.

MWI can often schedule your free consultation or mediation session on the same day or within a few days of your first call. To schedule time with mediator Josh Hoch, see <https://calendly.com/mediation>

## Rates

- Mediation services are billed at \$350 per hour.
- Reduced rates may be available, contact Josh at 617-895-4028.
- **MWI does not require a retainer.** Clients pay as they go for time needed.

## Contact

For more information, contact:

Josh Hoch  
Mediator and Director of Mediation Services

617-895-4028  
[jhoch@mwi.org](mailto:jhoch@mwi.org)  
[www.mwi.org/divorce](http://www.mwi.org/divorce)

## Other Services

MWI also offers mediation services for never married parents, separations, post-divorce, family, workplace, land use, real estate, commercial, and business matters.

**617-895-4028 | [jhoch@mwi.org](mailto:jhoch@mwi.org)**

10 Liberty Square - 4th Floor  
Boston, MA 02109  
[www.mwi.org](http://www.mwi.org)



## Divorce Mediation:

*An effective way to create separate working futures.*

10 Liberty Square - 4th Floor  
Boston, MA 02109

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## Divorce is Never Easy.

Regardless of the reasons behind the divorce, once you make the decision to separate, you must face all sorts of practical issues:

How will you handle finances?  
Will you sell the house?  
What about health insurance? Taxes?  
Life insurance?  
Retirement savings?

The list may seem endless.

If there are children, the list of topics may feel overwhelming. How will custody and parenting time be shared? Where will the children live? Where will the children spend holidays and vacations? How will the parents handle expenses? Who pays for summer camp? Co-Pays? College? And how will you continue to communicate when making decisions about the children after the divorce?

Traditional methods of reaching a divorce settlement can be costly and often leave both people feeling hurt and hostile. This makes communicating more difficult, both during and after the divorce.

**Divorce Mediation** creates an opportunity for couples to work out the terms of their divorce in less time, with less cost, and often with less hostility and fewer lasting negative effects.

Unlike the traditional court process, mediation enables couples to take control and make informed decisions about the terms of their divorce. MWI's professional mediators help couples identify goals, discuss important topics, and create a forum for productive conversations to take place.

## MWI provides divorce mediation services that work.

MWI provides complete divorce mediation services from the initial consultation to drafting the Separation Agreement. Our panel of divorce and family mediators is made up of professionals with years of experience helping couples create fair, equitable, and durable agreements.

### What Happens at Mediation?

With so much at stake, it is important to make informed decisions. MWI mediators guide clients through a checklist of topics that need to be discussed and decided on in order to obtain a divorce. When all necessary topics have been covered and agreement has been reached, MWI will draft the Separation Agreement. Couples often spend 6 to 12 hours participating in mediation. Some clients spend more time and some less, depending on situations and what has been discussed or agreed to prior to mediation. MWI draws from a talented pool of mediators and offers flexibility in scheduling, both in terms of location and appointment times.

### What Happens Outside Mediation?

In addition to the time spent mediating, each party may need to gather information in order to make informed decisions. Some clients benefit from meeting with a financial analyst, mortgage banker and/or an attorney. Although you may not need anyone to represent you at mediation or when filing divorce paperwork in the Court, you will be encouraged to have your agreement reviewed by an attorney before signing it. MWI maintains a referral list of professionals for your convenience.

## MWI Offers:

- Video and phone services during COVID
- Day and evening appointments
- No retainer. Pay as you go for time used
- Reduced rates for income eligible clients
- All court forms available online at [www.mwi.org/divorce-forms](http://www.mwi.org/divorce-forms)
- MWI's Director available by phone and email throughout the process

### Free Consultation: **617-895-4028**

Contact us to schedule a no-charge 30 minute meeting with a mediator to get your questions answered. Appointments are held during the day and early evenings. Consultations are **free** when both parties attend.

### Mandatory Parent Education Program

Massachusetts requires parents seeking divorce to attend a court-approved Parent Education Program. See our website at [www.better-parent.org](http://www.better-parent.org) for a list of upcoming online programs. New programs start each month.

### Contact Us

For more information, contact Josh Hoch, Mediator and Director of Mediation Services:

**617-895-4028** | [jhoch@mwi.org](mailto:jhoch@mwi.org)

[www.mwi.org/divorce](http://www.mwi.org/divorce)





**AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN MEDIATION**

We are requesting divorce mediation services from MWI, and understand and agree to the following terms:

1. We are the decision makers in this process and the mediator cannot impose any decisions regarding the disputed issues.
2. Mediator services shall not be construed as legal advice, financial advice, therapy or any professional service other than mediation. Either of us may seek expert advice at any time during the mediation. The mediator has advised each of us to have separate, independent counsel review any agreement before we sign it.
3. Mediation is a voluntary process. The mediator or we may choose to end the process at any time.
4. We must disclose all of our financial worth, assets and liabilities during the mediation process. We each accept full responsibility for the reasonable accuracy of the figures disclosed and understand that agreements reached will be based in part on these figures.
5. We understand that mediation is a confidential process under Massachusetts General Law Chapter 233, Section 23C and that MWI and its mediators will keep the details of our case and all related documents confidential. However, we understand the mediator and MWI reserve the right to disclose suspected abuse and/or crime to the proper authorities.
6. The mediator or MWI can set forth any agreement reached in mediation in a Memorandum of Understanding, Separation Agreement or other written document upon our request.

*Signed by the parties:*

Sign Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Sign Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*and signed by the mediator:*

Sign Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**DIVORCE MEDIATION FEE AGREEMENT**

We, the below signed parties, understand and agree to the following:

1. We will pay a total of \$350 per hour for mediation services.
2. Payment for services is due at the end of each mediation session by cash, check or credit card.
3. MWI schedules two hour sessions. If the full time is not used we understand that MWI will only charge us for actual time used.
4. If we cancel a mediation session with less than 24 hours notice, or one of us does not attend a scheduled session, we will pay a fee of two hours of time.
5. If we reschedule a mediation session with less than 48 hours notice, we will pay a fee of one hour of time before a next session will be scheduled.
6. The same hourly rate listed above applies to additional services that might be provided outside of mediation sessions, including:
  - a. Phone calls and emails with the mediator;
  - b. Preparation of written materials such as progress summaries and draft agreements;
  - c. The drafting of the Memorandum of Understanding and/or the Separation Agreement.
7. We will pay for documents in full before they are released to us by MWI.
8. We give permission for MWI to charge our credit card for mediation services as described above, unless we have paid by cash or check.
9. MWI will not provide additional mediation services until all late fees and associated balances are paid in full.
10. A late fee of 18% of the outstanding balance will be added to the total amount due if payment is not received within 30 days after services are rendered or documents are drafted.

Sign Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

CC \_\_\_\_\_ CC# \_\_\_\_\_ exp. date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Visa, MasterCard, Discover, Amex)

Sign Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

CC \_\_\_\_\_ CC# \_\_\_\_\_ exp. date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Visa, MasterCard, Discover, Amex)

## REVIEWS FROM PAST CLIENTS

Ronit G.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

My experience with MWI was very positive. I would particularly like to compliment Josh Hoch for his sensitive nature, his patience, his thorough follow up, attention to detail, conscientiousness, and overall professionalism while handling my divorce mediation.



**What our  
clients say  
about us...**

Eric L.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

Josh Hoch handled a mediation for me and I was completely satisfied. He was professional, patient, thorough and worked with a calm, competent demeanor. Josh was excellent in explaining things clearly and answering any questions that I had. In a situation that had the potential to be stressful Josh was definitely a great asset to have available. I highly recommend him.

Steve and Sharon

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

When my wife and I recognized after decades together that it was time to amicably separate, a couple of colleagues, who perform mediation, independently recommended Josh Hoch as a mediator. However, it was important that my wife and I both feel comfortable with Josh and his approach. He exceeded our expectations in terms of professionalism, even-handedness, and his ability to facilitate our communication involving intentions, differing expectations, guidance, and clarity of next steps. We both felt supported by Josh and appreciated his transparency related to costs, referrals and billing. Overall, we achieved our goals with a lower financial and emotional burden than we expected.

Chantal B.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

We are indebted to Josh for his assistance and support during a very difficult time for our family. Nobody ever wants to go through a divorce, but having Josh's guidance resulted in a very painful season ending in an incredibly amicable way. We have a young son and knew that for our sake, and especially for our child, it was important to navigate this split in a mature and collaborative manner and Josh helped make this dream possible. He has an uncanny ability to keep all parties on task and the focus on what is important (the overall health of our family moving forward). He was readily available to answer our questions at every turn and helped us get our agreement easily passed in June 2019. I would recommend Josh for his professionalism, affordability and most importantly, his ability to be sensitive to the emotional nature of the situation while also moving each party through the "business" tasks at hand.



Sam S.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

Josh was of tremendous help as we navigated the divorce process. There is nothing easy or pleasant about mediating a divorce, so it was critical to have a neutral third party helping you walk through this process. He did not take sides and with his calm demeanor, was able to quickly resolve contentious issues for me and my spouse. We had heard horror stories on how excruciating litigation can be, so our goal was always to avoid it. Thanks to Josh we were able to successfully mediate and arrive at a fair settlement. I highly recommend him and MWI! Thank you again for your help!

Elizabeth S.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

Josh Hoch is an excellent mediator. He is kind, patient, and knowledgeable, and he guided my husband and me to a fair and amicable divorce. He has a great sense of when to listen and when to take charge, and he creates an environment that invites honesty and cooperation. When our work with him was done and we sat in a courtroom waiting our turn before a judge, my husband and I were chatting and laughing together. Josh was our unseen partner in the cheerful conclusion to our marriage.

Allison F.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

I wanted to thank you again for your help and support with our divorce mediation. I recognize the process is incredibly difficult and I truly admire your professionalism and understanding. We went before a Judge on 12/31 and he approved our agreement. He also stated he doesn't typically comment on agreements but this was the most positive agreement he has read in his entire career and felt the need to comment and commend us for working toward a positive future. I gave you (Josh Hoch) full credit and I will also be referring a few close friends to you. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your kindness and sensitivity to our family's needs, most importantly our beautiful daughter's future. My husband actually hugged me and apologized after it was over which was unexpected and emotional but gave me hope we will move forward amicably.

Ali K.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

We can't thank Josh enough for making such a daunting thing (divorce) so seamless. The whole process was done with the utmost respect to our situation taking into consideration just how difficult this all is. Speaking for my Husband and myself, we couldn't be more thankful to have worked with Josh Hoch. Any potential clients should have a peace of mind in working with him in the future.



Jamie D.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

My husband and I participated in divorce mediation with Josh. My experience in mediation was much better than I had anticipated. Josh made us feel comfortable and he created a calm atmosphere and space for us to talk. We disagreed on lots of topics but Josh never gave up on us. Although some mediation sessions were heated and difficult, we ended up reaching a full agreement. I am glad that Josh was our mediator and I highly recommend hiring him!

Nichole F.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

I attended the court-ordered/mandated divorce parenting program at MWI back in late January of this year. I just wanted to share how happy I am that my co-parent is now attending the class as well (October 2018). Since I thoroughly enjoyed the class and got a lot out of it, I was hoping my co-parent would attend, so we would receive the SAME content. I explained to him that MWI's program was VERY good, not boring and that he should consider signing up...Well, he did!!! Thank goodness. I highly recommend the mediation services and the Better Parent program at MWI.

Eric D.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

I came to MWI because I was looking for an affordable way to get divorced. Josh was a great mediator and in the end his costs were less than what I expected. What I liked most about Josh was that he always remained neutral. He also made the process simple and efficient. I would definitely recommend hiring him as a mediator. I am glad Josh was available to help us get through the tough process of divorce.

Phillip J.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

Josh Hoch of MWI was an absolute pleasure to work with. He was very responsive to our emails and guided us through all the paperwork and steps for a speedy resolution and divorce. He was able to accommodate one of us being in a different city and is an expert in knowing what the court would want to see for each document. Both the judge and courthouse clerk commented that the separation agreement was well written and one of the best they had seen. The rates are very reasonable, affordable, and definitely better than what one would pay going through separate lawyers. In summary, I highly recommend Josh for divorce mediation services.

Rich M.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

I've known a lot of people from my 25 years of running my own business. I will always recommend MWI's divorce mediation service to others.



Theo B.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

Mediator Josh Hoch and the MWI mediation team eased this difficult time of transition in my life. The process was explained simply and free of problems from consultation up until the time for filing at the court. I even forgot a key component of the file inside the MWI offices as we had already made our way to the courthouse. Josh and the staff met us more than halfway, as they were kind enough to run the file downstairs and up the block to hand deliver the missing documentation. In the future, if other contacts are in need of services, I will definitely forward them to MWI offices.

Chris C.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

When my divorce began, I retained a high-end Boston attorney firm and over the course of a year I paid them more than \$100,000 in legal fees and wasn't getting anywhere. My wife's attorney was determined to go to trial which would have dragged the case out another year and cost at least another \$100,000. The only people who were going to "win" in my divorce were the attorneys. I was mentally exhausted and tired of writing huge checks so I approached Josh at MWI. He met with myself and my wife separately and he was able to build a rapport and trust with both of us individually. Our situation was about as bitter as any divorce could be, but he was able to navigate through the hostile environment and focus on what really needed to be done to settle the case. My wife was highly irrational and volatile during the divorce and it seemed as though nobody could reason with her. Josh was able to build a rapport with her and maintain even posture, persistence and patience required to get her to the table.

After several negotiations fell apart, we eventually signed a settlement agreement which made both of us feel as if we had "won". Along the way, Josh was also able to provide numerous referrals to various experts, all of whom turned out to be excellent resources. I cannot say enough good things about MWI and Josh. The cost was minimal compared to litigious attorneys, and I wish we had started with mediation rather than ending there.

Lauri T.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

My husband and I came to an understanding that it was in our best interest to part ways. This was a difficult and gut-wrenching decision for both of us. I (the wife) originally sought legal representation which was not comfortable for me, and especially not comfortable for him, never mind how expensive it was going to be. We wanted to have this experience be as non-confrontational and amicable as possible. We had an initial meeting with Josh, who was just wonderful. He has a very calm demeanor, is knowledgeable, and projects a caring atmosphere of support, but neutrality.





The negotiations were so much easier to do for both of us with Josh. We had two intense meetings and found Josh to be very responsive and he created an environment of ease, never mind the financial aspect which was a fraction of what legal litigation would be.

I highly recommend MWI and especially Josh as the mediator. I feel mediation in general is such an amazing alternative to legal litigation. Divorce can be such a volatile and unsettling experience, but I have to say, Josh made what could have been an uncomfortable and confrontational experience feel far more like a collaborative and supportive experience.

Marlenny A.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

I am so grateful to have worked with Josh's team during a time that was both difficult and confusing. Josh and his colleagues have always made themselves available to meet with me and advise me on various matters concerning my divorce and post-divorce needs. Josh is always very responsive and attentive, and when he is unable to assist, Josh has taken the time to refer me to an excellent network of professionals. I would refer this team to all my friends and family.

Sheila C.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

My ex-husband and I had an extremely high conflict divorce with a lot of moving pieces. We were with attorneys for over a year. The attorneys turned what should have been a simple process of asset division, parenting time and some extra pieces into a 6 figure battle that got us nowhere.

In comes Josh. He stuck it out through a lot of tension and found middle ground for us in a matter of weeks. He persevered when I lost faith and ultimately solved our conflicts, helped us each achieve closure and begin our new separate lives in peace. I highly recommend mediation with Josh Hoch at MWI.

Angela D.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

After almost thirteen years of marriage, my husband and I made the difficult decision to divorce. He suggested that we pursue mediation and set up an appointment with Josh Hoch at MWI. From the first time I met Josh I was impressed with his professionalism, patience, and impartiality. We met several times while developing a comprehensive separation agreement that satisfied us both. I had dreaded the process, but Josh helped us remain focused and future-oriented. Three years have passed and we have reached out to Josh to review our case and make adjustments as needed to accommodate our ever-changing lives. He is always prompt in responding to calls and emails and is available at convenient appointment times. I would recommend him highly to anyone who is in need of mediation services.



Erica P.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

I am extremely grateful to Josh Hoch for making this difficult time as painless and navigable as possible. He was clear and informative, always ensuring that we both understood the short and long-term considerations of the decisions we faced. Josh was patient and accommodating. He was always responsive, quick to answer the odd questions as they came up, and was pleasant to work with. He helped us draft an agreement that was not only fair but fostered the cooperative spirit that we want to continue going forward for our children's benefit. Josh prepared us well for each step in the process, and I would recommend his services to anyone looking for a knowledgeable and truly caring professional to guide them through the intricacies of the divorce process.

Kelli L.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

MWI and Josh Hoch was the best option for us because we were looking to avoid a costly divorce process. We were looking to keep our hard-earned money available for the family, not costly lawyers. Josh made us feel very comfortable working through every step and some unique circumstances. Josh accommodated our busy schedules and walked us through every step of this emotional process. He coached us well for the court hearing. On our court date our paperwork was in order; we noticed others were not (others with expensive lawyers present). What could have been a difficult process was very easy.

Paul H.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

We had been working with attorneys for about a year and going nowhere, just spending money. We had decided to try mediation and Josh was recommended through a friend. It was the smartest thing we did. Two sessions and we got our stuff settled and were moving on. I would strongly recommend giving mediation a try with Josh. He was very professional and fair. He provides you with all the paperwork you need and prepares you for court. Most importantly, he saves you money.

Katharine D.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

My ex-husband and I are grateful for MWI helping us navigate a very difficult time in our lives. We both wanted to avoid the extreme costs of court and a lengthy process. We first contacted



an attorney and asked if they would be able to mediate. While the attorney told us they could accommodate, it became clear during our first meeting this wasn't the case. This was especially disappointing, as any divorce is a very delicate.

This is when my ex and I searched for a different option and found Josh. Josh was flexible and accommodated our schedules by meeting in the evening, as we both work full time. He met with us together and then separately to ensure we felt our needs had been met and to ensure we felt the proposed agreement was fair.

My ex husband and I still stand with the agreement Josh helped with. We're co-parenting successfully and most importantly our children were impacted as little as possible.

Keith F.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

At a very difficult time for my family I reached out to Josh. He offered council and services that helped repair a dire situation. Transitioning my family into mediation was very delicate, and he eased us into the process. Although there was no one session, event, or discussion that resolved our situation, Josh and MWI played a crucial role in getting us where we are today. Better days are ahead, and I will be forever grateful. Thank you to Josh and MWI.

Rick H.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

Josh did a terrific job of guiding us through a challenging time. He gave us an overview of the process and walked us through the steps in a professional and low-pressure approach. He is very knowledgeable of the entire divorce process and what to expect with the courts. We chose MWI based on reviews we found, and Josh completely lived up to our expectations. I would highly recommend him to any couple looking for a fair and non-confrontational divorce.

Bonnie W.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

Things couldn't have gone any smoother. In court, we especially noticed other couples having issues with their paperwork, and we had no problems. We recommended you to our brother-in-law and they just began mediation meetings. Thank you very much.

Matthew M.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

Josh Hoch skillfully mediated a divorce for my wife and me. Josh was experienced, friendly, and personable. His calming presence was instrumental in keeping tensions low throughout



negotiations. Josh was recommended by a close friend, and I would certainly recommend his expert services to others.

Chris D.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

Josh is very professional and has been extremely helpful during this difficult time, providing relevant advice all along. He was quick to respond with valuable information, which enabled me to tackle the paperwork much more easily and efficiently. I can't recommend him enough to anyone else going through a divorce.

Catherine B.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

Josh Hoch from MWI was a great help as we navigated the mediation process. There is nothing easy or pleasant about mediating a divorce, so it is critical to have a clearly neutral yet supportive individual leading you through it. Josh is that kind of person. Our goal was to avoid contentious litigation, yet to both come out feeling we had done our best to agree on a fair settlement. Mediation can be the path to this, and having the right person leading the process, such as Josh, is essential. I highly recommend Josh and his organization.

Bryan K.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

Josh is a true professional in every sense of the word. His experience, expertise and knowledge in mediation is an invaluable asset to his clients. When in need of the very best, Josh Hoch of MWI is the only choice.

Laura P.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

Josh has been very helpful during the process of completing the court required paperwork. We didn't even know where to begin. He walked through all of the paperwork, explaining each piece of paperwork and answering all our questions, in turn saving both time and money. MWI has made going through this complicated time easier.

David L.

**5/5 stars** ★★★★★

Josh helped me with my divorce. He is very knowledgeable about divorce in Massachusetts and saved us lots of time and money. He is a skilled mediator, although our situation was not that difficult. We have since filed for divorce and everything went smooth. I highly recommend Josh and his firm, MWI.



Heather C.

5/5 stars ★★★★★

My ex and I are very grateful for Nnena Odum's support and guidance throughout the separation agreement process; we felt very comfortable, and knew just what to expect from our hearing and from the Judge. I also greatly appreciated that Nnena was able to offer her services to us as a Notary Public, and even took the time to answer a few last-minute questions as they came up (after the separation agreement was completed). Of additional note is their efficiency and promptness--I enjoyed working with Josh Hoch. He was always very quick to answer/return our phone calls, and was very personable and clear in his communication. Also, I can't begin to express how grateful I was for MWI's adjustable rate (based on our income). If anyone has the unfortunate need to seek similar mediation services, without question I know that I would recommend Nnena/Josh/MWI to them.

Samuel G.

5/5 stars ★★★★★

MWI provided very rapid response after we contacted them and then they initiated the mediation only a few days after we spoke to them. We had a French speaking requirement and MWI provided us with a mediator who could speak excellent French. The mediation took a few weeks, but I felt that the mediator was on top of the case and helped finalize a mutually beneficial Memorandum of Understanding. After the mediation was completed, Josh H, from MWI was a great resource of help to put the divorce file together and make sure that filing went smoothly.

I am strongly recommending MWI in a divorce mediation process. It did take several hours of negotiation, but at the end of the day, it is 10 time cheaper than involving lawyers and have both parties fight.

For information about MWI's Divorce Mediation Services, contact Josh Hoch at **617-895-4028** or [jhoch@mwi.org](mailto:jhoch@mwi.org). Information is also online at [www.mwi.org/divorce](http://www.mwi.org/divorce).