



Restorative Justice Mediation: Information Sheet

Clark & Associates Mediation Services Pty Ltd

What is it?

Restorative Justice Mediation is an internationally recognised evidence-based model that provides a neutral setting for those affected by crime to talk directly to each other and develop a deeper understanding of their circumstances. The process is structured, voluntary and confidential.

A safe space is created by a Nationally Accredited Mediator who facilitates the mediation. The Appointed Mediator will hold confidential intake sessions with everyone before any proposed mediation in order to assess the suitability of the matter.

At mediation the Mediator will control the process. You can ask questions about what happened, share emotions and impacts and explain/explore your needs. Accountability, remorse and compassion can be demonstrated.

Do I have to do this?

No, you have the right to information about this service and how you can take part. Clark & Associates can explain how the mediation would be handled before you make up your mind. If you don't want to be involved in a Restorative Justice Mediation you can decline the offer at any stage.

Where and when would it take place?

Discuss this with Clark & Associates. We will work with you to organise a suitable location and time.

What about safety?

Safety is Clark & Associates priority. A risk assessment is carried out in every matter and if required a safety plan put into place. All of our mediators are Trauma-Informed Practitioners. Each persons physical and emotional safety is of paramount importance to us.

Who pays for it?

The defendant usually pays for the entire cost of the service unless others wish to contribute or pay. In some matters a complainant has contributed to the fees. Legal Aid Queensland have also provided a grant of funds in some matters.

What is the point of it?

Research has shown it can help reduce fear of crime, post-traumatic symptoms and may even stop it happening again to someone else. For most people it gives a sense of closure and helps reduce the negative effects of crime. Restorative Justice Mediation can restore a sense of control through a better understanding of what happened and why.



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Potential benefits for a complainant or affected person/people:

Restorative Justice Mediation might provide a complainant or affected person/people with a forum to:

- Participate, tell their story;
- Ask questions, obtain understanding;
- Be validated, acknowledged;
- Obtain respect, feel empowered;
- Be restored;
- To heal; and
- Achieve closure.

Potential benefits for a defendant/s:

- Promote participation;
- Increase awareness of their offending;
- Obtain understanding;
- Assist in their rehabilitation;
- Assist in their reintegration into their community;
- To heal; and
- Achieve closure.

Potential benefits for the State:

- Promote participation by those affected by crime;
- Assist meet complainant needs;
- Resolve the matter in a meaningful way; and
- Avoid/reduce the costs associated with litigating the matter;
- Improve prospects of defendant rehabilitation.

Mediator Information:

Clark & Associates Mediation Services Pty Ltd is an Incorporated Legal Practice providing mediation services throughout South East Queensland and Victoria. Their area of specialty is Restorative Justice Mediation. They are a Trauma-Informed Practice.

Kate Clark: Legal Director of Clark & Associates Mediation Services

Ms Clark holds a Bachelor of Law (Honours), a Bachelor of Behavioural Science (Psychology) and a Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice. She is an admitted solicitor, holds an Unrestricted Principal Practising Certificate, is a Nationally Accredited Mediator and an Accredited Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner. Ms Clark has worked as a criminal and family lawyer. Ms Clark has extensive experience in facilitating restorative justice mediations and has conducted mediations in indictable, summary, coronial and domestic violence matters since 2017. She has extensive experience in working with people who have trauma, anxiety, depression and people in crisis.



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Lily Brisick: Panel Mediator of Clark & Associates Mediation Services & Barrister-at-Law

Ms Brisick has worked as a criminal defence solicitor, Legal Officer and then Crown Prosecutor at the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions before becoming a Barrister-at-Law. She is a Nationally Accredited Mediator and has conducted Restorative Justice Mediations in indictable and summary matters since 2019.

Maryann Hearn: Panel Mediator of Clark & Associates Mediation Services

Ms Hearn has over 30 years' experience in conflict resolution in various settings including restorative justice and for victims of crime. She was appointed as one of the first Specialist Youth Officers approved under the Young Offenders Act (1997) and as a Restorative Justice Conference Convenor in Queensland. Maryann has facilitated over 800 restorative justice conferences, specialising in sexual offences and other offences of serious personal harm.

Fee Information:

For current information about our fees please see our website: www.clarkmediation.com.au

As at January 2024 our fees are as follows:

- Half-Day Restorative Justice Mediation (4 hours): \$2,420.00
- Full-Day Restorative Justice Mediation (8 hours): \$3,630.00
- Additional Hours at Mediation: \$484.00 per hour
- Room Hire: Varies dependent on location

We are able to offer reduced rates for those with limited financial capacity, including matters where a party is represented by Legal Aid Queensland. Please contact our office for our current rates.

All fees are inclusive of GST.

Contact us to find out more about Restorative Justice Mediation:

E: admin@clarkmediation.com.au

W: www.clarkmediation.com.au

M: 0466 613 358