

## ABOUT YOUR MEDIATOR

Kathy J. Leggett, MA, obtained her degree in Legal Studies/Pre-Law from Marshall University in Huntington, WV, in 1984 and immediately relocated to Polk County, Florida. Kathy began her career as a family law and litigation paralegal. During the next 13 years, she became skilled in visitation, custody matters, child support guidelines, and the financial obligations due both parties in responsibility to the minor children of the marriage. All divorce and modification matters were handled by her from Petition to Final Judgment.



After graduating Cum Laude from the University of South Florida (USF), with her Bachelor of Sciences in Criminology, she served the State of Florida for 4 years as a Felony Probation & Parole Officer. The negotiation skills and resiliency she developed while in this position have equipped her well to mediate high conflict family law cases.

Soon after becoming involved in the field of Conflict Resolution, she completed her graduate school program and graduated Suma Cum Laude from Southern Christian University, where she received her Master of Arts degree in Professional Mental Health Counseling. Soon, certifications for both Family Law and Dependency Law were granted by the Supreme Court of the State of Florida, through the USF Conflict Resolution Collaborative, under the training of Dr. Gregory Firestone, as well as certification in Parenting Coordination through the University of South Florida. Kathy received her Circuit Civil Mediation certification through Mediation Training Group at Nova University and is currently the facility director and shareholder partner of Central Florida Mediation Group, LLC, in Lakeland, Florida. [www.CentralFloridaMediationGroup.com](http://www.CentralFloridaMediationGroup.com).

As a Florida Supreme Court Certified Mediator, Kathy will serve as a neutral third party, helping to facilitate a mutual agreement between both parties, concerning the outcome of their decision to dissolve their marriage.

In addition to mediation services, Kathy conducts court appointed social investigations and child custody evaluations as well as provide counseling services to individuals and families in the Central Florida area.

### **Membership/Affiliations:**

- Association of Family and Conciliation Courts
- American Counseling Association
- American Association of Christian Counselors
- American Business Women's Association-President Elect-Winter Haven Express Network
- Winter Haven Women's Bar Association
- Polk County Association of Family Court Professional –10<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit
- Peacemaker Ministries-Conflict Coach
- All Kinds of Minds - Subject Path Specialist