

THE WEST VIRGINIA STATE BAR

Eliminating Obstacles in Mediation with Effective Communication – An Advanced Mediation Training

Bridgeport, West Virginia – July 29, 2021

8:45-9:00	<i>Welcome/Introduction</i> Debra Scudiere, Esq., Morgantown, WV
9:00 – 9:50	<i>Preparation For a Successful Mediation – Panel Presentation</i>
Facilitator:	Thomas G. Steele, Esq. Steele McMunn, PLLC Clarksburg, WV
Panelists:	Elliot Hicks, Esq. Hicks Resolutions Charleston, WV
	Heather Heiskell Jones, Esq. Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC Charleston, WV
	Sean Sawyer, Esq. Higinbotham & Higinbotham, PLLC Fairmont, WV

In this session, four experienced West Virginia attorney/mediators will explore strategies to address issues that sometimes impair the ability to reach a resolution in mediation through activities that may be undertaken before the mediation.

9:50-10:45	<i>Moving Through Mediation: Addressing Obstacles to Resolution DURING the Mediation (<u>Finding Confidence in Conflict: How to Negotiate Anything and Live Your Best Life</u>)</i>
	Kwame Christian, M.A., Esq. American Negotiation Institute, LLC Columbus, Ohio

In this session, attorney/mediator Kwame Christian will introduce participants to strategies that often can break barriers that make a resolution difficult. Mediators and advocates will learn how to use questions to build rapport, convey conversation, change tempo, detoxify a difficult environment and deal with high emotions. They will also learn how to shift power and reality during mediation to help break down barriers.

10:45 -11:00	Break
11:00-12:00	<i>Moving Through Mediation</i> continues
12:00-1:30	Lunch (on your own)
1:30-3:30	<i>Moving Through Mediation</i> continues

3:45-4:35 *The Home Stretch: Evaluation of Damages, Non-Financial Relief and Other Resolutions in Mediation.*

Co-presenters: Chelsea Prince, Esq.
Bowles Rice, LLP
Morgantown, WV

Gee Lofstead, Esq.
Spilman Thomas & Battle, PLLC
Wheeling, WV

In the final session, we will explore the components the mediator and the advocate should consider in their settlement evaluation, including monetary damages, non-pecuniary losses and resolution beyond money.

4:35-4:45 *Wrap-Up*
Debra Scudiere, Esq. and Thomas G. Steele, Esq.