

**City of Seattle, Employee Office of the Ombud
Consent to Mediate**

The parties voluntarily agree to mediate. The parties understand that mediation may be terminated at any time by either party or by the mediators.

The mediators have no authority to decide any case and are not acting as advocates or attorneys for any party. The parties have a right to representation during mediation.

The confidentiality provisions of the Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics of the International Ombuds Association apply to this mediation. The Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics focuses primarily on protecting private communications between parties and the mediator. In most cases, parties' oral communications to the mediator during mediation are protected. The same is true for written communications parties prepare for mediation and give only to the mediator.

There are exceptions to the confidentiality provisions in the Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics. Information concerning fraud and criminal activity or threats of imminent harm will not be considered confidential in this mediation and will permit disclosure by law.

No party shall be bound by anything said or done at the mediation, other than this Consent to Mediate, unless a written settlement is reached and executed by all necessary parties.

By checking this box, I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to the terms of this Consent to Mediate.