Ninth Judicial District Court Mediation Program DOMESTIC AND CIVIL MEDIATION SLIDING FEE SCALE <u>Full Rate \$100 per hour (per party)</u>

| Gross Income | Percentage of Full Fee Paid | Cost Paid Per Party |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| \$0 – \$14,472 | 10% | \$10 |
| \$14,473 – 18,090 | 20% | \$20 |
| \$18,091 - \$24,120 | 30% | \$30 |
| \$24,121 - \$36,180 | 40% | \$40 |
| \$36,181 - \$42,210 | 50% | \$50 |
| \$42,211 - \$48,240 | 60% | \$60 |
| \$48,241 - \$60,300 | 80% | \$80 |
| Above \$60,300 | 100% | \$100 |

Notes: 1) For families of five (5) and above, an additional 10% discount will be applied, except that no party will pay less than 10% of the fee without approval of the Judge. 2) NM Sliding Fee Scale for ADR & SESV is to be updated every five (5) years, based upon that current year's Federal Poverty Level. (NM Supreme Court Order 18-8500-001)

Justification:

1. The costs incurred by the district court for operating an in-house Mediation program consist of training, supplies, travel and a portion of the salary/benefits of our Court Attorney (determination based on budget and revenue available - mediation related work performed).

2. We arrived at the cost that we will charge each party receiving services from the domestic relations or civil mediation program by considering the cost of private mediation in our community and reducing those rates to provide a lower cost mediation option while recognizing that our program has been designed to predominately serve self-represented, lower income individuals in our community.

Additional Information:

- Unless ordered otherwise by the Presiding Judge, each party will pay for a minimum of two (2) hours of Mediation.
- 2. Each District Court Judge retains the discretion to reduce the required fee for good cause shown.
- 3. Income paperwork may be completed prior to Mediation. In the absence of income paperwork, the maximum fee is to be charged.
- 4. Mediation fees are to be paid directly to the District Court Clerks' Office in the County where the case was filed.
- 5. The fee shall be paid prior to the scheduled mediation.
- 6. In the event of undue hardship to a party, that party may petition the court for relief from the obligation for payment of all or part of that party's share of the Mediation fee. Such a petition must be made within fifteen (15) business days of the date the Order Appointing Mediator is entered.
- 7. The Court maintains the ability to raise/lower fees.
- 8. The Court's Clerks' Office will collect the fees in accordance with the law.