



6113 43rd Street, Suite A
Lubbock, Texas 79407

(806) 785-5644 ext 130 -
Office

(806) 781-9823 - Cell

(806) 785-5973 -Fax

E-mail: westexrcd@gmail.com

Website: www.westexrcd.org

Bailey	Lamb	Hale	Floyd
Cochran	Hockley	Lubbock	Crosby
Yoakum	Terry	Lynn	
Gaines	Dawson		
Andrews	Martin		
	Midland		

MEDIATION: CHOICE versus CHANCE

Disputes are often unavoidable and can be very costly in time and money. Fortunately for those who find themselves in difficult situations, the Texas Dispute Resolution System™ offers a range of problem-solving and alternative dispute resolution (ADR) services, such as mediation and binding and non-binding arbitration to give individuals options other than litigation.

The most common type of ADR process is mediation, where people in a dispute meet with a trained, neutral mediator who assists the parties in reaching their own solution to a problem.

These services ultimately offer individuals the ability to facilitate, evaluate, or decide a dispute in a cost effective manner, relative to more expensive and time consuming options such as traditional litigation where the individual has less control over the outcome.

The Lubbock County Dispute Resolution System began in 1985 and currently boasts the most comprehensive delivery system of any ADR system in Texas. Dispute Resolution's successful track record and innovative programs led to their appointment as the administrator for Texas Rural Mediation Services™ (TRMS), which is the sole provider of the USDA Certified State Agricultural Mediation Program for Texas. TRMS addresses state-wide disputes impacting USDA agencies and their participants, yet for other issues facing rural Texans, anyone in the 207 Texas counties not served by an ADR system can request mediation through the program.

"There are a lot of feuds that go on in rural areas and it is not uncommon at all for neighbors to have issues with one another that grow and fester until it gets out of hand," said Tom Mann, Dispute Resolution Advisory Board member and mediator. TRMS offers a way to help producers, ranchers, creditors, etc. resolve their issues and everyone leaves happy."

Possible issues that may be mediated through TRMS include:

Rural Health Care

- Access to Health Care
- Staffing Problems
- Liability
- Billing Disputes
- Quality of Care

Property Issues

- Electricity
- Water
- Wind Energy
- Imminent Domain
- Homeowners Insurance
- Commercial Insurance
- Property Use

Agricultural Issues

- Crop Insurance
- Boundary Disputes
- Agricultural Credit

Employment

- Seasonal and Migrant workers

Community

- Housing and commercial development
- Transportation Development

Environmental Issues

- Wetland Determinations
- Conservation Reserve Program Compliance
- Grazing on National Forest System Land
- Pesticides

Family

- Divorce
- Division of family estate
- Aging parent issues

With a corps of mediators living throughout the state and well-developed logistics, Dispute Resolution is able to deliver timely ADR services to the residents of all 254 counties in Texas.