

**Rule \*1940.5. Duties of the Mediator.**

(a) At the orientation session, the mediator must inform the parties in writing of the following:

- (1) the costs of mediation;
- (2) the process of mediation;
- (3) that the mediator does not represent either or both of the parties;
- (4) the nature and extent of any relationships with the parties and any personal, financial or other interests that could result in a bias or conflict of interest;
- (5) that mediation is not a substitute for the benefit of independent legal advice; and
- (6) that the parties should obtain legal assistance for drafting or reviewing any agreement.

(b) When proceeding from the orientation to mediating a custody dispute, the mediator shall ensure that the parties consider fully the best interests of the children.

(c) With the consent of the parties, the mediator may meet with the parties' children or invite other persons to participate in the mediation.