



DEREK M. MINUS

Barrister-at-law • Accredited Mediator • Chartered Arbitrator • Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner

RESOLUTION OF FAMILY LAW DISPUTES

I am an experienced and accredited Family Law dispute resolver and can provide a range of processes to assist parties with the resolution of their family law disputes.

TRANSFORMATIVE MEDIATION

I was accredited as a mediator in 1992 and was a member of the Relationships Australia family resolution mediation panel from 1993 to 1999. I was trained in transformative mediation techniques by the founders, Joe Folger and Robert Baruch Bush in Australia in 1998 and at Santa Barbara, UCLA in 2008. Transformative mediation is highly applicable to family law disputes as it deals with the emotional tide as parties negotiate a new relationship.

FAMILY DISPUTE RESOLUTION (FDRP)

The Family Law Act imposes a general requirement on people to attempt to resolve their disputes about children's matters before commencing a court process using family dispute resolution. I was accredited as a Family Dispute Resolution Practitioner by the federal Attorney Generals Department and registered as an FDRP in 2010. I am able to assist parties in a family dispute, discuss issues, review options and develop arrangements for their children. I am authorised to issue certificates under s 60I of the *Family Law Act 1975*.

ARBITRATION

I completed arbitrator training with The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK) and was qualified as a Chartered Arbitrator (the highest grade) in 2002. I have significant experience as a tribunal member and arbitrator in commercial disputes in Australia. I am currently appointed by the Chief Magistrate as an arbitrator to every Local Court in New South Wales.

Since the introduction in April 2016 of the new Chapter 26B in the Family Law Rules which enabled arbitration to be an effective method of resolving family property disputes, I have been engaged in the resolution of Family Law arbitrations.

Streamlined Process

I have pioneered conducting dispute resolution processes by videoconferencing enabled by faster internet and higher quality image processing. I use the WEBEX system also used by the NSW Justice Department in the Court system. Apart from the safety of parties, I find that many participants prefer the flexibility, relaxed environment, ease of attendance and the fact that they do not have to be in the same room as their previous partner in the relationship.

The system also allows the filing of documents into a secure space for viewing and retrieval by practitioners. When using a videoconference managed solution, I break the process down into discrete steps as needed by the parties to conduct and complete the resolution process.

Australian Institute of Family Law Arbitrators and Mediators

I am a member of AIFLAM which is my Registered Mediator Appointing Body.



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2020 SCHEDULE OF FEES (EXC. GST)

I provide my dispute resolution services primarily by **video-conference** (even before COVID-19). This allows for a more flexible and faster process and reduced fees as costs are not incurred for travel, room hire and un-productive times waiting around while people try to find things.

I am willing to provide a **fixed-fee** for the conduct of an arbitration or mediation. If required, a separate quotation can be prepared for a formal hearing.

1. Family Expert Determination on the Papers

Reading of all of the material and submissions and providing a written determination completed in a day.	\$3,880 fixed fee
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2. Arbitration Hearings

CONDUCT:

Preparation / All arbitration conferences Administration of the arbitration process	\$7,760 fixed fee
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AWARD:

Reading of all material and submissions Providing a written Award/determination	\$3,880 fixed fee
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3. Mediation

Preliminary conferences Reading of all of the material Conduct of the Mediation process Preparation of agreement with parties	\$3,600 fixed fee
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4. FDRP

Reading of all of the material and court documents Meeting and conciliating with parties	\$450 per hour
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Security Deposit:

A deposit of 50% of the fee is payable to Mediation & Arbitration Centre
ABN 090 594 451 Westpac Bank BSB: 032-007 ACCOUNT: 196575

At the conclusion of the dispute resolution process, a Tax Invoice setting out the fees charged will be provided to the Parties.