



TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF MEDIATORS

Dear Member,

The Texas Association of Mediators joins the nation in mourning the tragic death of George Floyd, a Texas native. TAM is a community of mediators, and, many of us go further to say, we are peacemakers. Because of who we are and how much we care about our TAM family, we want to offer our entire membership words of support and encouragement during these challenging times. Watching the events unfold over the last few weeks has left us all with different feelings, opinions, concerns, and ideas. In hearing from our membership, we know many among us have felt angry, frustrated, and afraid. We want our membership to know you are not alone.

How we move forward from all this is a question many of us continue to wrestle with every day. We cannot make changes to laws or society overnight, but we can build a professional community where we pledge to support and care for each other while we stand up collectively for what we know to be right and just.

As mediators we know the importance of creating spaces for people to feel heard and understood. And, while we do this expertly for our parties, we can also do it for each other and our communities. We hope all our membership strives to demonstrate and model respect, kindness, compassion, and empathetic listening in every interaction and communication we have out in the world and with one another.

As the world begins to brainstorm solutions to end systemic racism and needless violence, heal from past harms, and prevent racial and social injustice in the future, this is a time to learn from others and share experiences. The more collective knowledge and understanding we hold, the more effective, powerful, and creative solutions can be.

TAM is recognized as an inclusive organization that represents mediators from a diverse range of professional backgrounds and practice areas. TAM does not tolerate discrimination of any kind and believes equality is essential for individuals, institutions, and within and across systems.

Our board is honored to serve TAM, and we stand with our entire mediator community and peacebuilding family during these times of social unrest and change. As with all conflict, we hope this time in our history produces opportunities for positive and lasting growth and holistic resolution.

Sincerely,

TAM Board 2020-2021