



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

Peter H. Johnstone Day Helps Families Resolve Disputes Through Free Mediations

The Second Judicial District Court, in partnership with the State Bar of New Mexico, Family Law Section, will host its annual Peter H. Johnstone Settlement Facilitation Day, a free mediation event aimed at resolving family law disputes on **Saturday, May 3, 2025**, from **8:00 AM to 5:00 PM** at the **Second Judicial District Court**, 400 Lomas Blvd NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102. During this event, 40 family court cases referred by Family Court judges will have the opportunity to reach mediated resolutions with the help of volunteer attorneys and social workers offering their services pro bono.

This event honors the legacy of Peter H. Johnstone, a dedicated family law attorney whose vision and service helped launch this impactful initiative. Each year, about forty family law attorneys, along with numerous paralegals and social workers participate, donating their time to help families find resolution outside of the courtroom.

This program provides families without legal representation a meaningful opportunity to resolve their legal disputes—ranging from divorce, child support and custody, and post-divorce matters—through structured, guided mediation. Past events have helped an average of 75% of cases settle fully, with another 11% reaching partial agreement.

The event not only supports families during difficult transitions but also eases the burden on the court system, allowing judges to focus on more complex or contested matters.

Thank you to the City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County for providing parking for the event.

MEDIA AVAILABILITY:

Members of the media are welcome to cover the event. Interviews with volunteer attorneys, mediators, and court representatives can be arranged upon request. Please note that due to the sensitive nature of family law cases, access to private mediation sessions will not be permitted.