

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Mediation Abuse Billboard Claims Abuse by Mediator and Lawyers



Texas State Bar Chair on ADR Allowed Alcohol in Abusive Mediation to Unrepresented Woman Among Five Men States Victim

HOUSTON, Texas, Oct. 8, 2019 -- Wendy Meigs, Texas Pharmacist and Founder of SMA Education and Support, calls for the protection of the public from mediation abuse and exposes lack of unbiased accountability in the justice system, to the unwary public, through a billboard to highlight that even the most powerful abuse.

“We must protect the public from the abuse and manipulation that I felt. If the current sitting chair of the Texas State Bar on ADR, Edward Trey Bergman, cannot be trusted to lead a mediation without threats, abuse, deception, alcohol/drugging and accountability, then mediation needs to come to a halt until the implementation of guidelines to curb self-serving actions of lawyers and mediators occur, and thus guarantee the protection of the public,” said Wendy Meigs, now in appellate court with Bergman and Todd Zucker. How prominent is mediation?

Mediation numbers continue to escalate as judges push individuals to negotiate outside of court especially with limited resources as seen in Harris County. But is mediation the same as court? Some strive to promote that fallacy.

Defined: “Mediation [a form of ADR, Alternate Dispute Resolution] is a private process in which an impartial person encourages and facilitates communications between parties to a conflict and strives to promote reconciliation, settlement, or understanding.” Unlike a courtroom where exposure of standards of conduct and ethics limit outright abuses, “Confidentiality”, the private process in mediation, hides abuses and manipulation.

Because mediators, as overseers and creators of a fair and impartial mediation, hold positions of power, the public trusts the mediator. This power can allow misdirection of participants when the mediator’s income requires a continual referral source from judges and lawyers. If referrals dictate income, will the participant be manipulated by the mediator according to the referring lawyer’s agenda to sustain continuous referrals and income from that lawyer? Did

impartiality occur in Wendy's mediation with Bergman as the mediator? Wendy paid to place the billboard in Houston on Interstate-10, two miles from the location Wendy experienced abuse, the Heights Mediation Center.

"My lawyer told me after the man whom I was divorcing left a Family court-ordered mediation over community property before mediation started that I must stay and participate in everything asked of me or the judge would rule against me regardless of any negotiation and I would lose my company. With that began the most incredible abuse during a 12.5-hour mediation as the only woman among five men where I could not leave or refuse anything asked. Bergman allowed the opposing attorney, with whom I appear to have dual representation claims with possible aiding and abetting thefts, unknown to me at that time but known, to leave in the middle of mediation for a liquor store at the intense request of my opponent whom I greatly feared. Bergman then allowed that same attorney to pour alcohol to me twice before my attorney ever entered the room as acknowledged in my lawyer's memo. I feared for my life," said Wendy. What occurred to Wendy with the Chair of the Texas State Bar on ADR as mediator defines atrocity and requires immediate implementation of guidelines to protect the public and demand accountability from all involved.

The public, increasingly forced into court-ordered mediation, should be afraid. No laws currently exist with unbiased accountability. The public become victims under a system administered by people who fail trustworthiness and honesty by the Gallup Poll and then allows the continuation of these same people to function in mediation under blanket confidentiality. Where is the Texas State Bar in protecting the public? Where is Sunset Review? Is federal oversight required? Is the public in danger with the increased numbers of court-ordered mediations? Many say, "yes," especially in divorce court.

And what if the mediator is too high to fall such that all surrounding him feel compelled to protect such actions for fear of being "blacklisted"? Or what if that same mediator forgets the Texas Family court code 6.602 on the handwritten agreement thus allowing revocation without litigation? Who forces accountability then?

Our ancestors fought for our freedom from court tyranny. Our military protects our freedoms with their lives. We cannot as a public give away that freedom by allowing the potential self-serving actions of lawyers, mediators and judges to operate without protective guidelines to the public. We must take a stand and fight for justice for the people. Read the attached billboard. Visit SMANow.org. See the Documents. Read the Getting Gritty blogs and see the elements unfold towards Wendy's abuse, understand potentially why the abuse occurred, and see the possible manipulations of court to protect their comrades. Donate through the website or through Zelle using email, Support@SMANow.Org and help Wendy continue the legal fight to expose mediation abuse. She needs your help.

Together we must work to protect and educate the public about mediation abuse. Forced mediations must stop until enforceable laws define mediation boundaries and accountability. Notify congressman, senators, mayors, district attorneys, law enforcement and your neighbors of what conspired and what can happen without boundaries imposed.

Protect yourself. Protect the public.

References: <https://www.smanow.org/documents>

About SMA Education and Support:

Wendy Meigs founded SMA Education and Support in immediate response to an abusive mediation. Having experienced normal mediations, Wendy realized the vulnerability of the already vulnerable under the guise of impartiality and the abusive potential of blanket confidentiality. SMA Education and Support (Stop **M**ediation **A**buse), a For-profit organization, assists and educates on the potential abuses of mediation. We are NOT lawyers. We are everyday people, the common public. Visit www.SMANow.Org. Together, we can Protect the Public.

#

For Media Contact:

Wendy Meigs, R.Ph. MBA
President
(281) 761-6617
Support@SMANow.Org
www.SMANow.Org