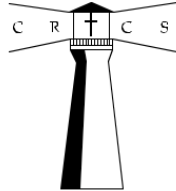


**Conflict Resolution  
& Conciliation Services**



*“Guiding People  
Through Conflict to Peace”*

**FIRST QUARTER 2009**

**PEACE NOTES**



**Focus on Service**

We assist couples in resolving separation and divorce issues not only before these events occur but also afterwards. Circumstances can change that may require revisions or interpretations. Mediation can be used to reach mutually acceptable solutions. At CR†CS, we can provide relevant legal information and help parties communicate productively on difficult issues. The mediators cannot provide legal advice to either party, because the mediator must address issues impartially. We assist parties in generating options for resolving disputes and then assist them in developing an agreement setting out the terms of resolution. The couple has control over any agreement made in the mediation process.

Mediation of post-marital and divorce modifications and interpretations can include:

- \*Custody Arrangements
- \*Recalculations of Spousal and/or Child Support
- \*Property Division and Logistics
- \*Parenting Issues-Sharing of Time, Decisions, etc
- \*Communication Improvement

We can also provide arbitration, where parties give us the responsibility to decide how an issue will be resolved after we hear the circumstances.

Regardless of the process, we at CR†CS take our role as Christ’s ambassadors seriously in how we approach applying biblical principles in resolving the disputes people bring us.

**Abounding Grace**

During this first quarter of 2009 we have been blessed with a more active conciliation caseload than in recent quarters. These provided us with not only a better economic base but also, more importantly, with significant opportunities to focus people on Christ in the midst of their conflicts, and to watch the Holy Spirit at work in people’s hearts.

We also had the opportunity to present biblical peacemaking principles and discuss resources for building a culture of peace in the church at one regional and one national denominational conference during the quarter. Both of these were away from the Metro D. C. area, although attendees at both included representatives from churches in this region. Please pray for these contacts to open opportunities locally and for sharing the building of a culture of peace in the church.

These teaching opportunities revealed how valuable it would be to us to have a portable video projector to use for such presentations. We would welcome the donation of such equipment.

Another initiative we ask for your prayers on is our endeavoring to connect with chaplains at local bases such as Ft. Belvoir and Ft. Myer to make our services known to military families dealing with conflict. We know the need is great.

We continue to trust in God and his abounding grace in sustaining this ministry.

Jeremiah 17:7-8

**Charitable Service Highlight of the Quarter**

This quarter, we had the opportunity to assist a couple separated over seven years address a change in their circumstances. The change had to do with their mid-teen son’s deteriorating relationship with mother, with resultant negative academic impacts. The mother wanted to give the father custody of their son. Father, while happy to have his son with him, was very concerned about the son having an easy out and agreed to take him on condition of joint effort to build a Christ-centered relationship with Mother. They also addressed revising the child support, which had not been adjusted since 2002 despite father’s significant income increases. Father accepted responsibility for failing to annually recalculate support as agreed, and we also helped parents arrive at an agreed amount of restitution.

*A Nonprofit Program of Conflict Resolution & Conciliation Center, Inc.*

10521 Judicial Drive, Suite 207 • Fairfax, Virginia 22030 • Phone: (703) 385-9877 • Fax: (703) 385-4353

E-Mail: [crcs77@mac.com](mailto:crcs77@mac.com) • Website: [www.ConflictToPeace.org](http://www.ConflictToPeace.org)