

From: [Anthony. Paul](#)
To: [Anthony. Paul](#)
Subject: Comal County press release: New alternative dispute-resolution program established
Date: Monday, November 16, 2015 11:34:10 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

**COMAL COUNTY, TEXAS
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE**

Contact:

Taylor Cobaruvias, executive director, Central Texas Dispute Resolution Center
512.878.0382
director@hcdrc.org

Alternative dispute-resolution program established

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, NOVEMBER 16, 2015:

NEW BRAUNFELS — New court fees go into effect today after the Comal County Commissioners Court last week approved the establishment of a new dispute-resolution program that will help low-income disputants obtain mediation.

The fees – \$15 on all civil cases filed in Comal County courts-at-law and district courts – will help offset the cost of contracting with Central Texas Dispute Resolution Center to provide mediation services for cases where the parties fall below a certain income threshold.

“There are a lot of civil cases that could be resolved at less cost to the county if the parties go through a mediation process before getting a judge’s ruling, but they can’t afford the expense of mediation,” said County Judge Sherman Krause. “This is a great way to help reach a better conclusion for the parties and save time and money in our court system.”

Counties are allowed to establish alternative dispute-resolution systems under the state’s Civil Practice and Remedies Code and fund them through the collection of fees by court clerks. In addition to the county courts-at-law and district courts fees, a \$5 fee also has been added to civil cases filed in Comal County justice of the peace courts.

The Central Texas Dispute Resolution Center, based in San Marcos, is a non-profit organization providing mediation services to low-income residents in Comal, Caldwell and Hays counties since 2010.

###

Comal County Public Information Office

Paul Anthony, Public Information Officer

830.221.1110

paul.anthony@co.comal.tx.us

www.mycomalcounty.com

Paul A. Anthony

Public Information Officer

Comal County

(830) 221-1110 | (325) 660-9913

paul.anthony@co.comal.tx.us