

THE QUESTION:

Is it permissible for a Florida Supreme Court Certified Mediator to use the State Seal or the Seal of the Florida Supreme Court on business cards, advertisements and promotional materials?

Sincerely,

Certified County Mediator
Northern Division

SUMMARY OF THE OPINION:

It is the opinion of the panel that it is inappropriate for a certified mediator to use the seal of the State of Florida or the Supreme Court on any advertisement without express permission.

AUTHORITY REFERENCED:

Statutes: Section 15.03, Florida Statutes.

Other Authority: Supreme Court Conference Minutes

OPINION:

In reference to the display of the seals of the State of Florida and the Supreme Court of Florida, permission is required for their use on **any** document. In the case of the Supreme Court seal, the Court has determined that the use by mediators of the court seal on business cards and letterhead is improper (Conference Minutes - March 16, 1994). The approval for use of the State of Florida seal may be obtained from the Department of State (Section 15.03, Florida Statutes). Reasoning from the foregoing, the panel believes it would be inappropriate for any certified mediator to use either of these seals on any advertisement without express consent from the aforementioned officials.

Oct 11, 1995
Date

Charles Rieders
MQAP Chair, Charles Rieders