

# **Mental Illness Screening and Court Communication**

## **Role Play Exercise (Ethics, Mediation, Mental Health)**

### **NORTH STATE COURT and MENTAL ILLNESS CHANGEMAKERS**

This role play exercise is based on real events, and it is designed to help dispute resolution students:

- 1) Reflect on the importance of ethical guidance documents such as Mediator Standards of Conduct
- 2) Understand the impact of the Americans with Disabilities Act on court policies and mediation
- 3) Appreciate and mitigate mental illness stigma and discrimination
- 4) Be aware of the role courts play in overseeing mediators
- 5) See how communication instead of avoidance can prevent escalation

Optional Discussion Questions:

- How could North State Court have changed their communication to be more well-received by Mental Illness Changemakers?
- How could Mental Illness Changemakers have changed their communication to be more well-received by North State Court?
- What could mediators do, in general, to avoid inadvertent mental illness discrimination?
- How could North State Court have turned Mental Illness Changemakers away without seeming like they were prejudiced about mental illness?