



City of Santa Barbara

PROCLAMATION

Mediation Month March 2008

WHEREAS, resolving disputes through formal court proceedings when parties often are in adversarial relations can be costly, time consuming, and complex, and mediation provides a viable alternative; and

WHEREAS, out of a "grassroots" recognition of a need for communication, dispute resolution, and improved relations between landlords and tenants, the Rental Housing Mediation Task Force was established in 1976 by the City of Santa Barbara, and is funded by the Community Development Block Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, the Rental Housing Mediation Task Force has 15 community volunteers who are trained mediators ready and able to help those in need of dispute resolution services; and

WHEREAS, many community organizations, including the Alternative Dispute Resolution Section of the Santa Barbara Bar Association, Conflict Solutions Center, and Individual Professional Mediators, are engaged in promoting the use of mediation as an alternative form of dispute resolution and increasing public awareness of its merits,

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTY BLUM, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Santa Barbara, California, do hereby proclaim the month of March 2008 as **MEDIATION MONTH** and support community efforts to encourage our residents to avail themselves of mediation services.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Santa Barbara, California, to be affixed this 4th day of March, 2008.



Marty Blum
MARTY BLUM, MAYOR