

During this period of court closures, we have found virtual mediation to be of meaningful value. Below are a couple of points to consider:

- Plaintiff firms appear more willing to settle during this economic shutdown;
 - Virtual mediations have been easier to schedule than the traditional in-person mediation;
 - The virtual mediation tends to be less expensive because there is no travel time and the mediation tends to move more quickly than the in-person mediation;
 - Where most mediations require that the parties spend the majority of their time communicating with the mediator, we have found that the virtual process allows parties to directly confer when desired or needed and still preserve confidentiality among all parties and the mediator;
 - The mediation platform seems to elicit a better response to slides and exhibits than the in-person process;
 - We have had success with the mediation companies, NAM and JAMS, both of which have addressed security concerns regarding Zoom and other video platforms.
- Please see attached step by step explanation of how to program Zoom on your computer to enhance its privacy and confidentiality.