

Reconciliation™

Interview Agreement

For Initial Consultation

"Come to me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

For a request for an initial consultation, print out and complete this form.

- Scan and email to mail@aorhope.org, or
- Fax to 844-447-2671, or
- mail to Ambassadors of Reconciliation, P.O. Box 81662, Billings, MT 59108 USA.

Then set up an appointment at https://www.aorhope.org/icc-inquiry

Thank you for your interest in reconciliation. At Ambassadors of Reconciliation, **our goal** is to help guide Christians involved in conflict to remember their reconciliation with God and to reconcile with one another as children of God (2 Corinthians 5:16-21). This Interview Agreement sets forth our mutual expectations for using our reconciliation services, including an initial consultation.

We believe that the Bible provides thorough guidance and instruction for faith and life (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Therefore, beginning with what God has done for us through Christ, we base our services on scriptural principles rather than those of secular psychology or psychiatry. God's Word urges us to live in peace with each other by promoting understanding, personal responsibility, justice, and reconciliation (Romans 12).

Description of Services – Ambassadors of Reconciliation offers different levels of Christian reconciliation services. We provide **conflict coaching**, **consultation** and **written resources** to help individuals and church leaders explore ways to resolve disputes personally and privately. We also provide **mediation**, an informal process in which one or more mediators meet with all of the people involved in the conflict to help them arrive at a voluntary settlement of their differences. When organizations struggle with conflict, we provide **group reconciliation assistance**, which includes *teaching*, *interviewing* for gathering data and coaching, *mediating* a few key parties, *evaluating* data, and *reporting* findings and recommendations. Finally, we provide **arbitration**, a more formal process in which one or more arbitrators hear each side's arguments and render a legally binding decision.

All of our services are provided according to the *Rules of Procedure* found in *Guidelines for Christian Conciliation* published by the Institute for Christian Conciliation. The *Rules* are incorporated in this agreement by reference as set forth in their entirety. (You can view the *Rules* online at <u>https://www.aorhope.org/rules</u>)

<u>Not Legal Representation</u> – Christian reconciliation may be used to resolve legal disputes (Matthew 5:23-26; 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 6:1-8). Even so, our reconcilers *do not* provide the kind of legal advice and advocacy that can be obtained through a personal attorney. We work with and for all of the people in a dispute helping them to find a mutually satisfactory agreement. Therefore, if you are concerned about your legal rights, you should consult with an independent attorney who would be willing to accompany and advise you, if you deem it necessary, during the reconciliation process.

<u>*Fees*</u> – There is no fee charged for a 30-minute initial consultation. After initial consultation, our standard reconciliation fees are charged at \$175.00 per hour for actual reconciliation services and

preparation time, plus expenses. Travel time is charged at half the normal rate. Expenses include such things as long distance phone calls, materials, and traveling expenses (i.e., meals, transportation, lodging, etc.). Those who need help with fees are encouraged to apply for reduced fees, based on need.

<u>Confidentiality</u> is an important aspect of the conciliation process and we will carefully guard the information you entrust to us. However, we may need to divulge information to appropriate authorities if there is a clear indication that someone might otherwise be harmed (see *Rules of Procedure* 16 and 17). We ask that you agree not to discuss our communication with people who do not have a necessary interest in the reconciliation process. By participating in this process, you agree to treat all dealings with us in regard to this dispute as settlement negotiations, which means they will be inadmissible in a court of law or for legal discovery. Furthermore, you agree that you will not try to force any reconciler to divulge any information acquired during reconciliation or to testify in any legal proceeding related to this dispute.

<u>Our Commitments to You</u> – We desire that parties be given the opportunity to tell their story in a safe environment and to lay their burden at the foot of the cross. To that end we will:

- Listen with caring, compassionate concern, seeking to understand and to be supportive.
- Provide you with the opportunity to tell us what is needed for healing and restoration.
- Bring the Gospel to bear as we have opportunity, including confession and forgiveness.
- Provide biblical coaching to help you live out your vocation as children of God in your disputes.
- Keep confidences, only reporting to authorities what is appropriate or required by law (see above on *confidentiality*).

If you have any questions about this agreement, please speak with one of our staff. If these terms are acceptable to you, please acknowledge with your signature below.

Signed:	Date:
Print Name:	Email:
Phone:	Best times to call:

In the space below, briefly describe the situation for which you are seeking help. (You may attach additional pages.)