

Seeking Resolution

Good afternoon. My name is Sarah Pickette. I am a resident of The Dalles, OR in Wasco County. I am submitting my support for SB600 on behalf of Six Rivers Dispute Resolution Center.

Resolve: I wholeheartedly support Six Rivers' efforts to achieve goals in conflicting circumstances. They provide an objective environment with effective skills and support their clients toward agreeable resolutions.

Six Rivers serves 7 counties: 5 in Oregon and 2 in Washington. Unfortunately, our unprecedented times have witnessed an increased need for conflict resolution. Their profound difference is maintaining independence through resolution versus reliance in our court system who decide for their clients. SB600 will definitely impact Six Rivers by increasing the awareness of a healthier option and adequately train more staff to meet the demands of the communities they serve.

Personal impact: My search in finding Six Rivers went beyond my expectations. My personal circumstances involved preparing for a divorce. Seeking out lawyers was not only difficult, but finding one who supported my core values was unfortunately NOT compatible. I was very clear about what needed to happen. I wanted to proceed with integrity, honor, respect, and most importantly, complimenting my faith. I am grateful for my friend's high recommendation to seek out Six Rivers.

The following is my testimony of my experience which most definitely supported my core values:

Integrity: I appreciated the preliminary interviewing process. They recommended with clarity what was expected prior to the initial meeting. I took it to heart, and we worked hard through our key issues prior to our appointment. Our skilled coaches asked clarifying questions and their direction helped us define the details needed to clearly state each other's views. As a team, we developed concise, concluding statements with purpose and resolve. Their environment of compassion and purpose was evident every step of the way. This prepared us for our next step of the divorce process. It was impressive.

Honor: This was a very difficult time in our lives. Life-altering. Neither of us wanted a divorce, but tragically, reality was ever-present and needed to be dealt with. The process of mediation distinctly honored each of us, kept the decision process within our control, was cost effective, and the trained coaches adequately prepared and guided us to conclusive statements we needed to proceed forward.

Respect: I am grateful for Six Rivers. They provided an avenue to maintain respect and value for each person involved. I was on a personal mission to work through this difficult journey with integrity, honor, and respect. I did not want any part of the stereotypical outcomes of divorce that unfortunately so many experiences. I am very conscientious of my personal responsibilities to live out what I truly believe. Six Rivers provided that for me and my former husband.

Please support SB600 by fully funding this vital resource through Six Rivers Dispute Resolution Center.

Thank you,

Sarah Pickette, Wasco County Resident