



For Immediate Release
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DC Superior Court and CARECEN Launch New Community Dispute Resolution Clinic

The D.C. Superior Court and the [Central American Resource Center \(CARECEN\)](#) are pleased to announce the start of a new program designed to assist Spanish-speaking area residents with civil disputes. The services provided will help community members resolve disputes, in hopes of avoiding the expenditure of resources that are required for a court case. Starting February 8, 2011, the services will be offered *at* the CARECEN offices on 1460 Columbia Road, NW. Service hours will be from 9:00am to 4:00pm on the second Tuesday of every month.

The new program will offer dispute resolution services for various disputes. Consumer disputes include disputes between stores and merchants, over home improvements, car repairs, etc. The clinic will also help resolve housing disputes over security deposits and repairs, community disagreements between neighbors, disputes over unpaid wages, and help with debt or loan repayment between individuals. A bilingual specialist from the [Multi-Door Dispute Resolution Division of the Superior Court](#) will work with parties to resolve disputes, contacting other persons involved when appropriate. The specialist will also provide individuals with information to better understand their problem and what community resources exist to assist them.

“I appreciate the efforts of CARECEN to assist the Court in making its services more convenient and accessible to Spanish-speaking members of our community. Dispute resolution is an effective way to resolve disputes, less involved and costly for the participants, and obviously a saving of court-time as well. Most importantly, dispute resolution is a process that results in a compromise, a situation where both parties are pleased with the resolution,” said Superior Court Chief Judge Lee Satterfield.

The Community Dispute Resolution Clinic will offer services to DC residents, or residents who were residing in the District when the events relevant to the conflict occurred. If the other party/person involved is a company or employer, the case may also qualify if the company/employer carries or carried out business in the District.

Those interested in scheduling an appointment with the clinic should call (202) 328-9799 ext. 18 or visit CARECEN Monday through Friday from 9am to 4pm in advance.

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