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NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**NOTED LABOR NEGOTIATOR, THEODORE KHEEL, KEYNOTER
AT NEW JERSEY MEDIATORS CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 26, 2002**

Cranbury, NJ (October 15, 2002). Mediation is seeing unprecedented growth with more court-sponsored mediation programs and the increase in consumer demand for more cost-effective and less adversarial dispute resolution options. The Ninth Annual Conference of the New Jersey Association of Professional Mediators (NJAPM) covers the practical application of leading edge mediation strategies in key sectors including family, divorce, business, civil and labor relations. It also focuses on the emerging area of youth peace building. The Conference, open to all interested parties, is scheduled for Saturday, October 26th from 8:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Somerset Ramada Inn, 60 Cottontail Lane, Somerset, New Jersey.

Theodore Kheel, known as one of the premiere mediators and negotiators of the 20th century, will deliver the keynote on the evolution and future of mediation. Mr. Kheel, called the “Master Locksmith of Deadlock Bargaining” by *BusinessWeek*, is a specialist in the most challenging labor and employment disputes. He is the author of *Keys to Conflict Resolution*, the founder of Prevention and Early Resolutions of Conflicts, Inc., (PERC), and of the Kheel Center for Labor Management at Cornell University.

In his opening remarks, George Hays, PE, MBA, APM (Accredited Professional Mediator), and President of NJAPM, will set the tone for the conference by recognizing the organization’s growth and diversification as the field of mediation has expanded. He will also discuss the importance of practitioners keeping up-to-date on leading mediation theories so they can provide clients with superior service.

The morning’s featured speaker, Mark A. Mattaini, will discuss ways to change our culture to one of non-violence. He will also present afternoon workshops on youth peace strategies. Mattaini is an associate professor at the University of Illinois, and author of *Peace Power for Adolescents*.

Phyllis Smith, the Union County Complementary Dispute Resolution (CDR) Coordinator, Robert Margulies, Esq., member of the New Jersey Supreme Court's CDR Committee, and NJAPM representative Edward Peloquin, MS, APM, will report on the NJ Supreme Court’s CDR programs. Carol F. Laskin, Esq., chair of the New Jersey Bar Dispute Resolution Section, will provide an update from the New Jersey Bar.

There will be two afternoon workshop sessions. These sessions will have both professional practice and youth building workshops. The professional workshops are designed to educate and update those who practice mediation, those who are considering entering this growing field or those working with professional mediators to solve disputes. Presenters are attorneys, accountants, mental health professionals, human resource people and others with special training and experience in the practice of mediation. The youth peace building workshops are targeted towards students, educators, mental health providers and others in the field interested in effecting social change.

In the first session of workshops offered from 1:30-2:45 PM participants have the following choices:

Workshop A: *Marketing 101 for Mediators* with Carl J. Cangelosi, JD, and Jon Linden, MBA, APM

Workshop B: *Enhancing Communications in the Mediation Process* with Don Swanson, Professor of Communications, Monmouth University, New Jersey

Workshop C: *Youth Peace Building, Part I* with Mark A. Mattaini, DSW, ACSW

In the second session of workshops offered from 2:45-4:00 PM participants have the following choices:

Workshop D: *Family Law Update* with Robert J. Lenrow, Esq., APM, Jack Scher, JD, Mary Ann Stokes, Esq., and Alan Winters CPA/ABV, CFE, APM

Workshop E: *Mediating Complex Multi-Party, Multi-Issue Civil Cases (Yes, You Can!)* with Bonnie Blume Goldsamt, Esq., APM, Suzanne McSorley, Esq., Judge Herman Michels, Rick Steen, Esq., and Barbara Weisman, Esq

Workshop F: *Youth Peace Building, Part II* with Mark A. Mattaini, DSW, ACSW

The conference satisfies six hours of continuing education for NJAPM accredited mediators, and should also fulfill the annual requirement of continuing education credits for mediators approved by the New Jersey Administrative Office of the Courts. The Association for Conflict Resolution also recognizes these credits. Attending both *Youth Peace Building* workshops satisfies three continuing education credits for the NJEA. All NJAPM accredited members are required to have 10 hours of continuing education every year.

The cost of the full day conference including continental breakfast, lunch and conference materials, is \$119 for members of NJAPM and \$139 for non-members. Non-members who join NJAPM within 45 days of the conference can apply \$20 of their conference fees towards membership dues. There is special pricing of \$79 for unpaid/volunteer mediators not in the field, full-time students, educators, and government mediators. For more information and to register, please contact Shawna Wilker at 1-800-981-4800.

The New Jersey Association of Professional Mediators is a statewide, non-profit professional organization dedicated to fostering excellence in the field of mediation; promoting mediation as the preferred method of dispute resolution; encouraging and providing mediation education to the public, the government and the professions; training and accrediting professional mediators; and protecting the public through a Code of Ethics and Standards for Mediators. NJAPM distributes to the public two lists of those accredited mediators for divorce and family matters and for business and commercial matters. The Association can be reached at 1-800-981-4800, and their website is located at www.njapm.org.

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