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NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**LEADING NEW JERSEY MEDIATION ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE
FOCUSES ON THINKING AND LEARNING**

Hillsborough, NJ (October 16 2006). French physiologist, Claude Bernard (1813 - 1878) stated that "It is what we think we know already that often prevents us from learning." The 13th Annual Conference of the New Jersey Association of Professional Mediators (NJAPM) will focus on the intertwined themes of thinking and learning, as they relate to the field of mediation. The Conference, open to all interested parties, is scheduled for Saturday, November 4, 2006 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. at the Doubletree Hotel, 200 Atrium Drive, Somerset, New Jersey.

In her opening remarks, NJAPM President Anju D. Jessani, MBA, APM, (Accredited Professional Mediator) will share her vision for mediation in New Jersey and for the organization. She will share the organizations views regarding the New Jersey Superior Court's change to their mediation programs that reduce the amount of free time mediators are required to provide on each case referred by the Court. NJAPM will also be presenting scholarships to two Rutgers law school students who have excelled academically, and have shown a commitment to the field of mediation.

Keynote speaker, Nancy Kline, the acclaimed author of *Time to Think: Listening to Ignite the Human Mind*, will speak about how mediators can help their clients think for themselves. Nancy created and pioneered the development of the theory and process called The Thinking Environment™. This model allows people to turn their teams, organizations and relationships into Thinking Environments in which people at every level can think for themselves, with rigor, imagination, and courage.

The morning will also offer two additional featured speakers: The Honorable Robert Fall will speak confidentiality and mediation in New Jersey, and will also provide some other observations about family law, the New Jersey court system, and his career. Kenneth Kressel, PhD of Rutgers University, who recently conducted a research study utilizing some of NJAPM's members, will then present on mediation styles, and will discuss how mediation style can influence both process and outcome.

There will also be two sessions of afternoon workshops; each session offers a choice of three different workshops. These professional workshops are designed to educate and update those who practice mediation, those who are considering entering this growing field, and those working with professional mediators to solve disputes. Presenters include attorneys, accountants, mental health professionals, human resource managers, and others with special training and experience in the practice of mediation.

The first session's workshops are:

- ◆ *Civil Mediation Workshop - “Mediating Insurance Disputes”* with moderator Anthony Limitone, Esq., APM, and panelists Franklin L. Best, Jr., Esq., (Penn Mutual Life), Mark J. Bunim, Esq., Peter A. Scarpato, Esq., and Kharyne Neptune, Esq. (AIG)
- ◆ *Kenneth Kressel PhD Workshop on Mediation Styles*: Ken and a panel of mediators who participated in his study on mediation styles including Patricia Brady, EdD, APM, Nancy Gardner, and Art Lieberman, PhD, APM, will discuss how “Mediation Style can Influence both Process and Outcome”
- ◆ *Thinking Environment I – Presentation of Techniques* with Nancy Kline

The second session’s workshops are:

- ◆ *Divorce Workshop - “A Survey of Alimony and Tax Related Issues, by County, and More”* with moderator Carl Cangelosi, JD, APM, and panelists Hanan Isaacs, Esq., APM, Paul Kreisinger, Esq., & Amy Wechsler, Esq., APM
- ◆ *Marketing Workshop – “Growing your Mediation Practice: The Sky’s the Limit!”* with Kristina Haymes, JD. A practical approach to planning and marketing mediation services from a practitioner/marketing professional
- ◆ *Thinking Environment II – Interactive Role Plays* with Nancy Kline

Advance registration is \$155 for members, \$175 for non-members and \$115 for non-member students, government employees and special circumstances. The registration fee includes breakfast, lunch and conference materials. At the door registration is \$20 extra. For more information and to register, please contact Nancy Meade 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, lists of Accredited Professional Mediators. The Association can be reached at 1-800-981-4800, and their website is located at www.njapm.org.

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