

Invitation to Settle your OC Small Claim

(name)_____ would like to negotiate with you to settle your Small Claims case using the Orange County Small Claims Online Dispute Resolution website. However, he or she does not have your email address, which is required to create an account. You can create an account and invite him or her to negotiate with you.

Negotiations are **voluntary** and **confidential**. All of the services are **free** and you can ask for a neutral ODR facilitator (limited number available) to help you reach an agreement. Once you reach an agreement, your legal settlement form can be e-filed.

Benefits of a Legal Settlement

- ✓ You will not have to attend the hearing.
- ✓ You and the other party will have the power to decide the outcome of the case.
- ✓ You can resolve issues of the case that are not related to money.
- ✓ It may save your business relationship with the other party.
- ✓ If you agree on an amount the Defendant owes, you can set up a payment plan as part of a legally binding settlement. In a payment plan, the Plaintiff is usually paid faster and easier than collection and the Defendant will not get a judgment on their credit report as long as payments are made on time.

Legal Aid Society of Orange County provides the website absolutely free of charge because of a grant from the Legal Services Corporation. The neutral ODR facilitators are from Wayfinders, a non-profit that provides mediation at the Orange County courts.

Create an Account

To create an account to negotiate with the other party, go to odr.legal-aid.com. Click on "Create Account." When it asks you, enter the other party's email address, which is (email address)_____.