

61—17.11(654A,654B) Assignment and removal of mediators.

17.11(1) *Assignment of mediator.* The assignment of mediators shall be made by the director of the mediation service. The director of the mediation service may substitute the assigned mediator.

17.11(2) *Removal upon request.* During the mediation period, upon the written request of any party or all parties participating in mediation, removal of the mediator may be requested of the mediation service. This request must be filed in writing with the mediation service and, as soon as practicable, the director shall review the request. At the discretion of the director, a new mediator may be assigned to participate in the mediation.

17.11(3) *Effect of removal.* In the event of the removal of a mediator, the mediation service shall comply with the 42-day time period required by statute unless there is written agreement by the parties extending the time period.

17.11(4) *Self-removal.* Mediators may remove themselves from the mediation proceeding.