Justice of the Peace Court Online Dispute Resolution Landlord/Tenant



REFERENCE GUIDE FOR LANDLORDS AND TENANTS

Table of Contents

Registering and Logging into the System	2
System Dashboard	8
Using Conversations	9
Adding another Person/Attorney to your Case	11
Requesting a Mediator to Assist	12
Completing the Stipulated Agreement	13
Submitting the Stipulated Agreement to the Court	23
Appendices	24
Stipulated Agreement Example (double click to open full document)	24
Contact Information	25
Updating Account Information	25

Registering and Logging into the System

Within just a few days of a complaint being filed with the Justice of the Peace Court, a notice is sent to both the plaintiff/landlord and the defendant/tenant informing them about the Court's Residential Eviction Diversion Program. This notice includes the web address for the Online Dispute Resolution system. Parties can use their assigned case number to register on the website:

https://cii2.courtinnovations.com/DEJPCOURT/court

The party will reference the court notice and input their Civil Action Number (case number) in the search box located on the home screen and press SEARCH. The Civil Action Number should be entered in this format: JPX-XX-XXXXXX.



Welcome to the Delaware Justice of the Peace Court Online Dispute Resolution system. This new virtual service is currently available at no charge for parties in landlord / tenant cases to resolve their court case without having to physically appear in court. In the near future, the system will also be available for resolving debt actions.

Through Delaware Justice of the Peace Court Online Dispute resolution, parties can resolve their dispute with or without the help of a mediator. Mediation is a process in which a trained, neutral person (a mediator) helps parties identify a solution to a dispute that best works for them. Mediators do not take side, evaluate claims, or provide legal advice.

ELIGIBILITY

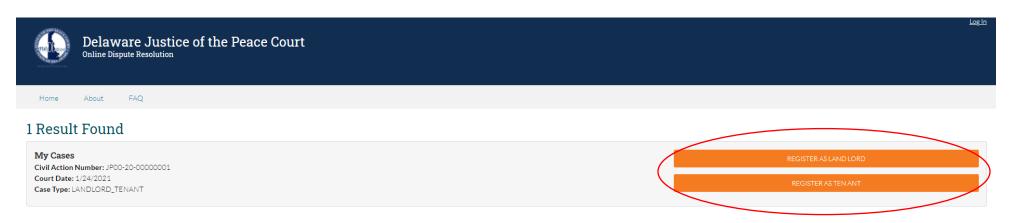
To use this service, you must:

- $A.\ Have\ received\ a\ notice\ from\ the\ Delaware\ Justice\ of\ the\ Peace\ Court\ that\ you\ are\ required\ to\ participate\ in\ Online\ Dispute\ Resolution$
- B. Have an active civil case filing number from the court.
- C. Have an active email address and access to the internet
- D. Be at least 18 years of age.

Already have an account? Log in here



The system will match the searched Civil Action Number with the case in the database and allow the user to choose the party they wish to register.



To complete the registration, parties will select their role in the proceeding (Landlord or Tenant).

Who are you registering on behalf of?	
Landlord	
○ Tenant	
What is your role?	
○ Landlord	
○ Attorney	
○ Form 50 Agent	
What is the trial date for this case?	⋵
☐ Check this box if there is a protection from abuse (PFA) or 'no-contact' order between the parties	

Selecting the role will populate additional questions to be answered to complete the registration. Parties are asked to check a box if there is an active no criminal contact order or Protection From Abuse order between any of the participating parties. Please note that selecting this box will prompt a mediator to be assigned immediately.

Parties will then read and acknowledge the process of the mediation.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO MEDIATE

I agree to participate in the Justice of the Peace Court Residential Eviction Diversion Program's Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) mediation process according to the following terms:

1. Participation in the Residential Eviction Diversion Program is Required for Landlords

- Both parties are expected to participate in good faith to resolve your case
- Either party may ask for the assistance of a mediator

2. Registration

You are required to have a valid email address.

- Your email is your ODR username
- You must set an ODR password

Any activity on ODR using your username/password is assumed to be done by you or someone with your permission.

3. Online Mediation Process

Once both parties join ODR and acknowledge the mediation process, both parties can attempt to resolve their matter online.

- You are encouraged to use the ODR system to communicate with the other party to try to reach a
 mutually agreeable resolution.
- You can request the assistance of a mediator at any time after registering.
- A mediator cannot be requested until both parties have registered for the case.
- Assignment of a mediator can be dependent upon the availability of a mediator.
- If you reach an agreement without a mediator, you may prepare the agreement form (Stipulated Agreement) provided by ODR yourself or request help from a mediator
 - o The signed agreement is legally binding
 - If a party does not keep the agreement, the other party can file an affidavit in court claiming the party didn't keep its agreement
- If a mediator is assigned to your case, they the mediator will prepare the agreement and file it
 with the court

Parties will accept the Acknowledgment to Mediate by typing their name on the provided line.

4. The Mediators

Mediators are neutral persons who have completed training programs approved by the Delaware Justice of the Peace Court.

Mediators do not act as an advocate or attorney and don't give legal advice.

5. Legal Advice and Attorneys

It is important to know your legal rights, either by consultation with an attorney, or through other sources such as <u>Delaware Legal Help</u>. Tenants who are income-eligible may be able to have free legal representation if they are facing eviction. For more information about the program, call 211.

Information on JP Court civil cases can be found here.

6. Confidentiality

The mediator and administrative staff overseeing the system will not share any communications made during mediation with persons not involved in the mediation unless:

- All parties request this be done and the mediator agrees, or
- o If required by law or court rule

Mediation communications include verbal or written statements, such as proposed resolutions or unsigned agreements.

Communications between only you and the mediator are not shared with the other party.

The mediator may not be called as a witness or notes subpoenaed.

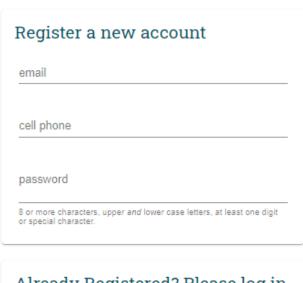
The Court will monitor and report on ODR's performance and effectiveness.

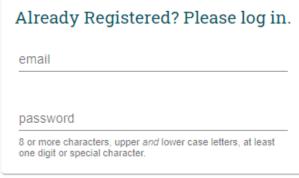
- Only aggregate findings will only be reported (number of cases, number of successful mediations, how long it takes, etc)
- No information about your case will be published in any report on ODR's performance and effectiveness.

The Court may ask users to complete a survey.

By typing my name, I acknowledge that I have read and accept the terms for using online dispute Resolution.

Parties can either register a new account or log into a previously created account. Please note, cellphone numbers that are entered into the system will receive updates and notifications regarding their case via SMS text messaging. Once the information is entered, click the SUBMIT button to complete the registration and begin efforts to communicate with the other party regarding a possible resolution.

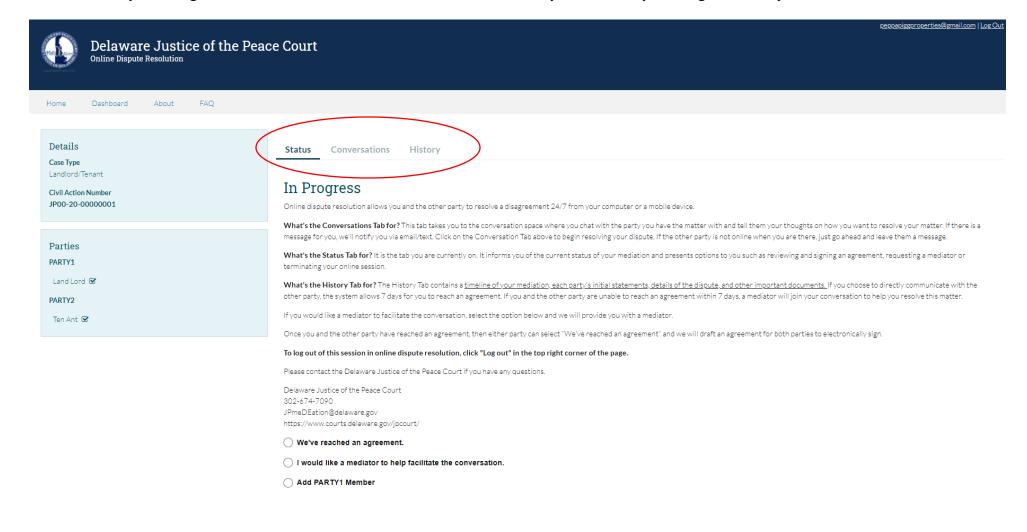






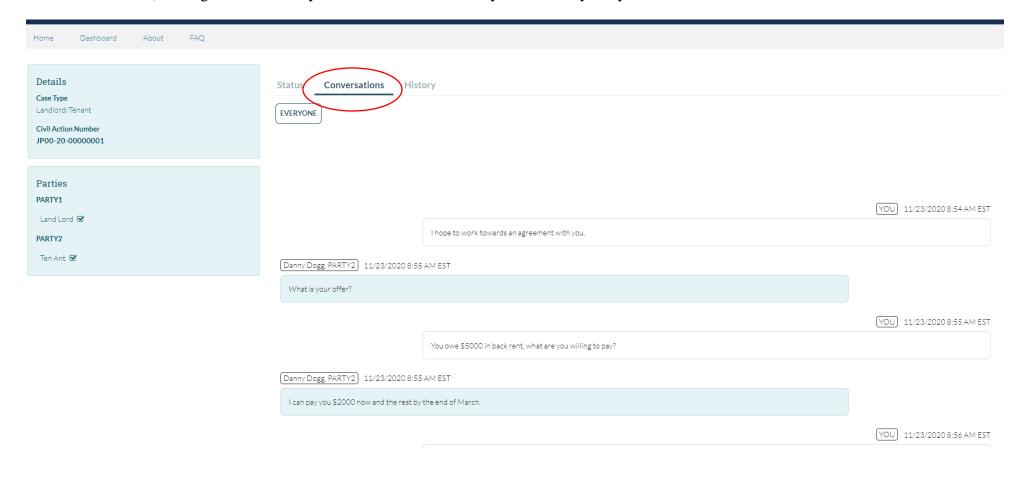
System Dashboard

Once both parties are registered, they will see a screen like the one shown below. This case is ready for the parties to start sending messages to the other party to try to reach an agreement. The **Status** screen shows the current status of the case and any options for the user. Parties can begin conversations by selecting the **Conversations** tab. Users can also view the history of the case by clicking the **History** tab.



Using Conversations

Parties send messages to one another by selecting the **Conversations** tab and typing a message in the empty block. Parties can attach files to the conversations too. If a mediator is involved in the case, the parties will see another channel of conversations that will allow messages to be sent between the individual parties and the mediator. Messages between Party 1 and the mediator cannot be viewed by anyone other than Party 1 and the mediator. Likewise, messages between Party 2 and the mediator can only be viewed by Party 2 and the mediator.



Danny Dogg, PARTY2 11/23/2020 8:55 AM EST

I can pay you \$2000 now and the rest by the end of March.

YOU 11/23/2020 8:56 AM EST

Would you be able to pay an additional \$500 per month beginning in January to pay off the remaining \$3000?

Danny Dogg, PARTY2 11/23/2020 8:57 AM EST

So \$2000 up front and then \$500 extra each month til I'm caught up?

YOU 11/23/2020 8:57 AM EST

Yes, is that acceptable?

Danny Dogg, PARTY2 11/23/2020 8:57 AM EST

Yes! Thank you so much!

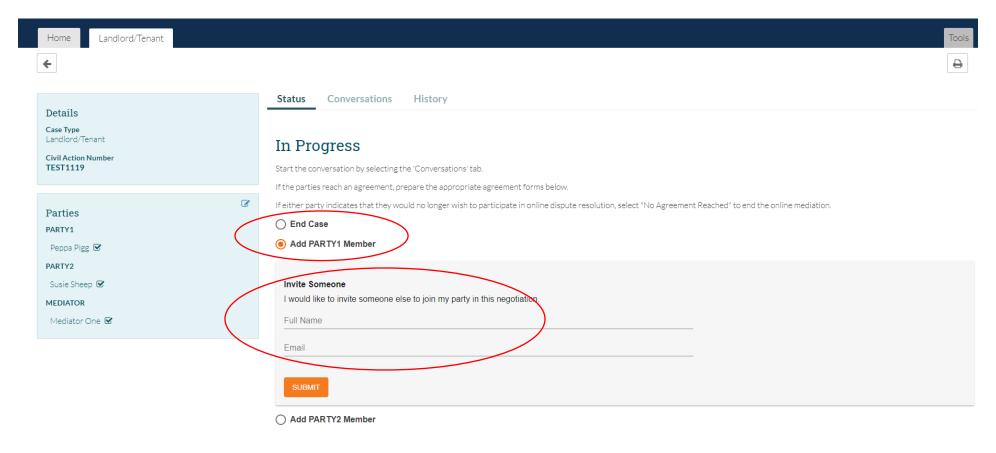
Messages and files exchanged in this channel will be shared with everyone.

Attach Files

SEND

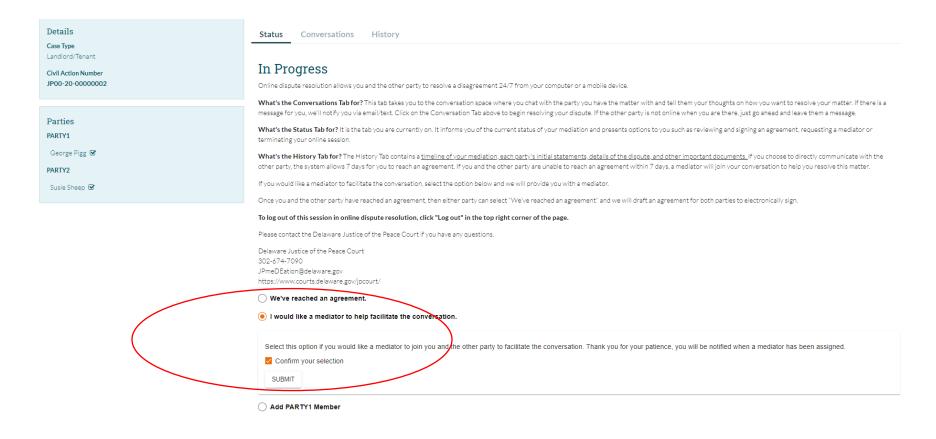
Adding another Person/Attorney to your Case

A party can add another person, such as their attorney, to their side of the conversations. They select the option for ADD PARTY MEMBER and then enter the other person/attorney's name and email address. Click SUBMIT and the ODR platform will send an email to that new person/attorney inviting to register and join the case in progress.



Requesting a Mediator to Assist

Parties can request assistance from a mediator. Just select the option from the **Status** screen, check the box below to confirm the selection and click SUBMIT. The status for this case will change to MEDIATOR REQUESTED. Once a mediator is assigned to the case, the status will change to MEDIATION: IN PROGRESS. Once the mediator has been assigned, the parties will see the mediator's name listed in the blue Parties box on the left side of the screen. Parties can then start to send messages to the mediator through the **Conversations** tab.



Completing the Stipulated Agreement

Once an agreement is reached, the parties or mediator will use the Agreement form template within the ODR platform to create the written Agreement. From the **Status** screen, the user will click the button for "We've reached an Agreement". This will open another section on the same page where the user will click the button to enter the terms of the Agreement and begin to input the appropriate information into the provided fields. When all of the information is complete, click the GENERATE AGREEMENT button at the bottom of the form to submit the form to the system.

Please see next pages for examples of the screens.

Details

Case Type

Landlord/Tenant

Civil Action Number JP00-20-0000001

Parties PARTY1

Land Lord 🗹

PARTY2

Ten Ant 🗹

Status Conversations History

In Progress

Online dispute resolution allows you and the other party to resolve a disagreement 24/7 from your computer or a mobile device.

What's the Conversations Tab for? This tab takes you to the conversation space where you chat with the party you have the matter with and tell them your thoughts on how you want to resolve your matter. If there is a message for you, we'll notify you via email/text. Click on the Conversation Tab above to begin resolving your dispute. If the other party is not online when you are there, just go ahead and leave them a message.

What's the Status Tab for? It is the tab you are currently on. It informs you of the current status of your mediation and presents options to you such as reviewing and signing an agreement, requesting a mediator or terminating your online session.

What's the History Tab for? The History Tab contains a <u>timeline of your mediation</u>, each <u>party</u>'s initial statements, <u>details of the dispute</u>, and <u>other important documents</u>. If you choose to directly communicate with the other party, the system allows 7 days for you to reach an agreement. If you and the other party are unable to reach an agreement within 7 days, a mediator will join your conversation to help you resolve this matter.

If you would like a mediator to facilitate the conversation, select the option below and we will provide you with a mediator.

Once you and the other party have reached an agreement, then either party can select "We've reached an agreement" and we will draft an agreement for both parties to electronically sign.

To log out of this session in online dispute resolution, click "Log out" in the top right corner of the page.

Please contact the Delaware Justice of the Peace Court if you have any questions.

Delaware Justice of the Peace Court 302-674-7090 JPmeDEation@delaware.gov

https://www.courts.delaware.gov/jscourt/

We've reached an agreement.

If you and the other party are in agreement, select this option to enter the terms of your agreement.

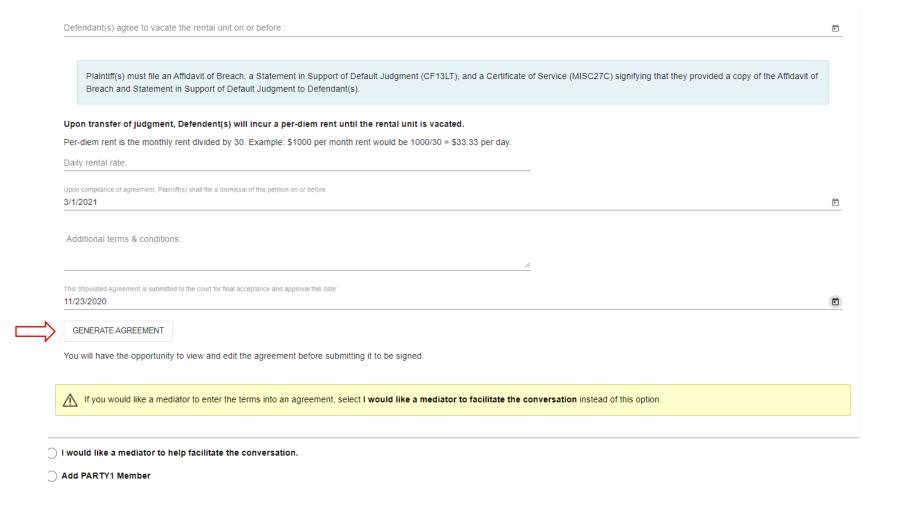
Enter Terms into Agreement

Use the drop-downs to Add Parties to the Agreement

Land Lord

We've reached an agreement.	
If you and the other party are in agreement, select this option to enter the terms of your agreement.	
Enter Terms into Agreement	
Use the drop-downs to Add Parties to the Agreement	
Land Lord	
☐ Ten Ant	
Complete Form Information	
Court Name	
Delaware Justice of the Peace Court	
Court Case Number	
JP00-20-00000001	
Parties agree that this amount is due to the Plaintiff(s):	
Enter amount here	
The amount due to the Plaintiff(s) includes the following categories: Back Rent	
☐ Late Fees ☐ Trash Fees	
☐ Utilities	
Court Costs	
Other	
Will a lump sum payment be made?	
○ Yes	15 P a g e
○ No	13 1 a g c

Parties agree that this amount is due to the Plaintiff(s): Enter amount here	
\$ 5,000.00	
The amount due to the Plaintiff(s) includes the following categories:	
✓ Back Rent	
□ Late Fees	
☐ Trash Fees	
Utilities	
☐ Court Costs	
□ Other	
Will a lump sum payment be made?	
Yes	
○ No	
Lump Sum Amount : Enter amount here	
\$ 2,000.00	
Lump Sum Due Date :	
12/1/2020	
The Defendant(s) first payment is due on or before :	
1/1/2021	
How will you make the payment owed?	
Check	
Certified Check	
○ Money Order	
Other	
The payment(s) shall be mailed to the Plaintiff(s) at the following address :	
100 Main St Dover DE 19904	
	<u>"</u>



Once the form is submitted to the system, the user will have an opportunity to review and edit any information that was entered in the form generator. If all of the information appears correctly, the user will click the SAVE & SUBMIT FORM button to send the form to all involved parties for review and signature.

Please see next pages for a visual aid of the screens.

In Progress

Online dispute resolution allows you and the other party to resolve a disagreement 24/7 from your computer or a mobile device.

What's the Conversations Tab for? This tab takes you to the conversation space where you chat with the party you have the matter with and tell them your thou message for you, we'll notify you via email/text. Click on the Conversation Tab above to begin resolving your dispute. If the other party is not online when you are

What's the Status Tab for? It is the tab you are currently on. It informs you of the current status of your mediation and presents options to you such as reviewing terminating your online session.

What's the History Tab for? The History Tab contains a timeline of your mediation, each party's initial statements, details of the dispute, and other important docorder party, the system allows 7 days for you to reach an agreement. If you and the other party are unable to reach an agreement within 7 days, a mediator will join

If you would like a mediator to facilitate the conversation, select the option below and we will provide you with a mediator.

Once you and the other party have reached an agreement, then either party can select "We've reached an agreement" and we will draft an agreement for both pa

To log out of this session in online dispute resolution, click "Log out" in the top right corner of the page.

Please contact the Delaware Justice of the Peace Court if you have any questions.

Delaware Justice of the Peace Court 302-674-7090 JPmeDEation@delaware.gov https://www.courts.delaware.gov/jpcourt/

\bigcirc	We've	reached	an	agreement
------------	-------	---------	----	-----------

\cap	l would	like a	mediator t	to help	facilitate	the	conversation
\cup	i would	like a	mediator	io neip	racilitate	uie	Conversation

Complete Form Information

Stipulated Agreement (P2P) - 1

PARTY1

Land Lord

Parties agree that this amount is due to the Plaintiff(s):

Enter amount here..

\$ 5.000.00

The amount due to the Plaintiff(s) includes the following categories:

This Stipulated Agreement is submitted to the court for final acceptance and approval this date:

11/23/2020

Court Name

Delaware Justice of the Peace Court

Court Case Number

JP00-20-00000001

SAVE & VIEW FORM

DELETE FORM

SAVE & SUBMIT FORM

The parties will be notified that the agreement is available to be reviewed and signed. Each party is expected to review the Agreement. If the party agrees with the terms listed in the agreement, the party is to sign the form. Note: If a party does not agree with the terms listed in the agreement, the party can reject the agreement. The party will have to indicate the reason the agreement is rejected. Once the party submits the rejection, the parties will have the ability to make edits and resubmit the agreement to all parties. If a mediator is involved in the case, they will sign the agreement after the parties have all signed the agreement and the mediator will submit the agreement to the Court.

Details	Status Conversations History
Case Type Landlord/Tenant Civil Action Number JP00-20-0000001	Review Agreement The agreement has been prepared and is ready for review. Please review the document and sign or reject it. If you reject it, then please provide details about why you are rejecting it in the comment section.
	○ We've reached an agreement.
Parties	I would like a mediator to help facilitate the conversation.
PARTY1 Land Lord	View and Sign the Stipulated Agreement - 1
PARTY2	PARTY1: Land Lord
Ten Ant ♂	REVIEW AND SIGN STIPULATED AGREEMENT
	○ Add PARTY1 Member

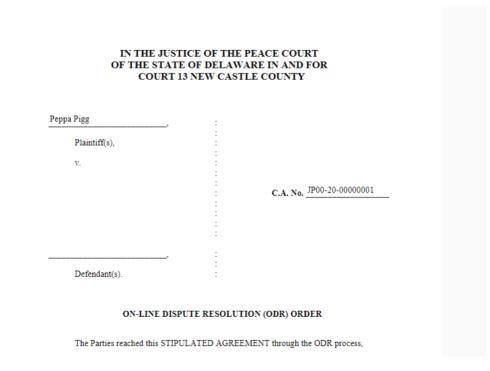


What action would you like to take?



SIGN AGREEMENT

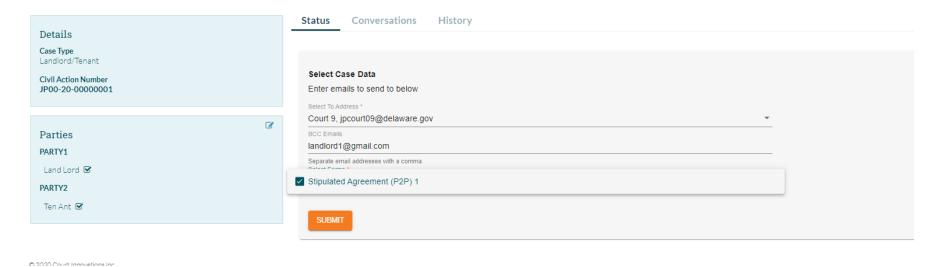
REJECT AGREEMENT





Submitting the Stipulated Agreement to the Court

Once all signatures have been added to the agreement, the plaintiff/landlord will click the button for PARTIES REACHED AN AGREEMENT and enter the Eviction Diversion Unit email address (jpmedeation@delaware.gov) along with any additional emails. The plaintiff/landlord will click the drop-down arrow and select the Stipulated Agreement form, then click SUBMIT to send the completed form to the court.



Appendices

Stipulated Agreement Example (double click to open full document)

IN THE JUSTICE OF THE PEACE COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE IN AND FOR COURT 13 NEW CASTLE COUNTY

	:
Plaintiff(s),	
v.	
	C.A. No.
	:
	:
,	:
Defendant(s).	:
Detendant(s).	•
	TE RESOLUTION (ODR) ORDER ATED AGREEMENT through the ODR process,
STIPUL	ATED AGREEMENT
The Parties	agree on the following:
. \$ is the an	nount currently due to Plaintiff(s).
. This amount includes:	
5. Defendant(s) agrees to submi	t a lump sum payment of \$

Contact Information

Phone Number 302-674-7090

Email address jpmedeation@delaware.gov

Website https://courts.delaware.gov/jpcourt

Updating Account Information

Parties can update their account information by clicking their username in the top right-hand corner of any ODR screen

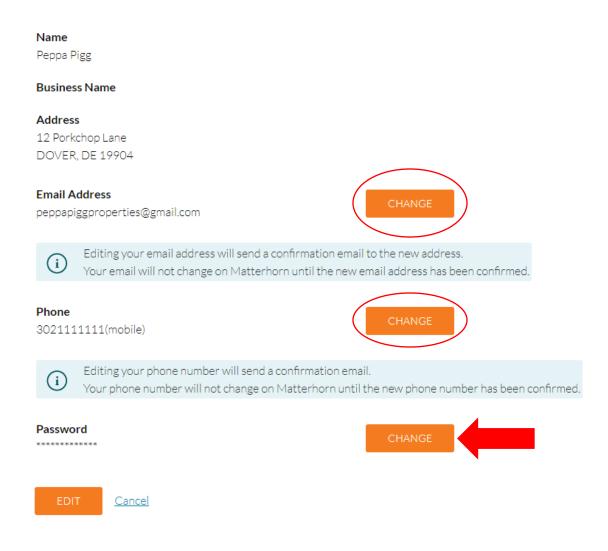


Welcome

If you and the other party reach an agreement, you will receive an agreement form for you to electronically sign. If you have a pending court case, the voluntary dismissal or consent judgment must be filed with the court. Go to the dashboard to access your existing mediations, or use the search field below to lookup your civil action number.

Parties can update their preferred email address and phone number by clicking CHANGE on their USER PROFILE screen. Clicking CHANGE next to PASSWORD will allow the party to update their system password.

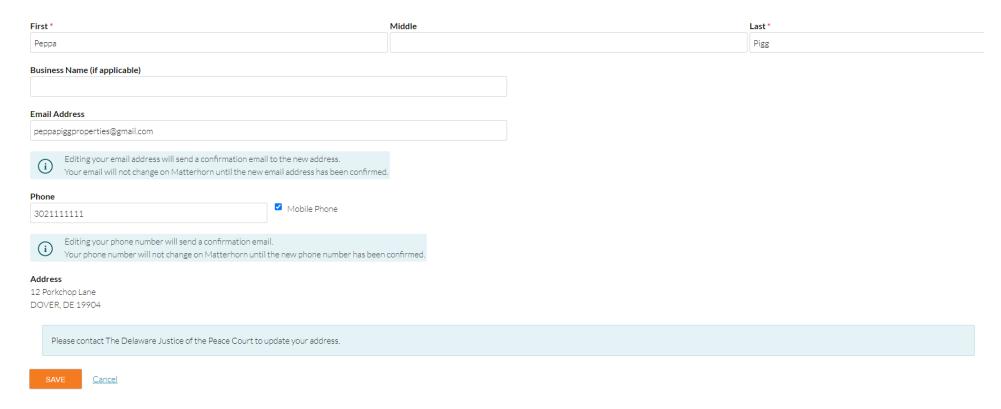
User Profile



When parties edit either their email address or phone number, the window below will open allowing them to edit their name, email address, and phone number. Physical/mailing addresses must be updated by the JP Court. Clicking SAVE at the bottom of the screen to save the changes.

Note: changing the email address or phone number will require verification. Upon verification of any email change, the party must use the NEW email address to log in to the system.

User Profile



When parties edit their system password, they must enter their current password, new password, then the new password a second time to confirm the change. Click SUBMIT to save the new password.

Home Dashboard About	FAQ
Change Password	
Current Password	Your password must be 8 or more characters and must include:
	an upper-case letter
New Password	a lower-case letter
New Password	• a number or special character: @#\$%&^+=
Confirm	
SUBMIT	