

Pre-Mediation Initial Joint Minute (Uniform Rule 41A(4)(a))

Template for signature by parties or their legal representatives prior to commencement of mediation.

1. HEADING & PARTIES

In the Matter Between	Party A (Plaintiff / Applicant): _____ Party B (Defendant / Respondent): _____
Court & Case Number (if issued)	_____
Appointed Mediator	Stavros Gazis (Blackthorn Resolute · Tel: +27 64 898 7503 · support@blackthornresolute.co.za)

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE & STATUTORY UNDERTAKINGS

- **1. Voluntary Referral & Good Faith Participation:** The parties hereby refer the above dispute to mediation in terms of Uniform Rule 41A (and/or the Gauteng High Court Mediation Protocol) and undertake to participate constructively and in good faith.
- **2. Strict Confidentiality & Without Prejudice Privilege (Rule 41A(6)):** All communications, disclosures, concessions, and working documents prepared for or made during the mediation are strictly confidential and *without prejudice*. Save for a signed written settlement agreement or the statutory Mediator's Report/Joint Minute recording the outcome, no statement made in mediation shall be admissible in any court or tribunal.
- **3. Suspension of Litigation Time Limits (Rule 41A(4)(d)):** Where litigation has commenced, the time limits prescribed by the Rules of Court for the delivery of any pleading or notice are suspended from the date of signature of this Minute until the conclusion of the mediation process.
- **4. Issues Referred for Mediation / Narrowing of Issues:**
 - (a) _____
 - (b) _____
 - (c) _____
- **5. Mediation Fee Apportionment (Rule 41A(9)(a)):** Unless otherwise agreed in writing, the parties shall bear the mediation fees of Blackthorn Resolute (**R950.00 per hour total · No VAT**) in equal shares (**R475.00 per hour per party**), with the first hour payable on or before the session booking date.

3. SIGNATURES

For Party A / Legal Representative	Signed: _____ Date: _____
For Party B / Legal Representative	Signed: _____ Date: _____
Accepted by Mediator (Stavros Gazis)	Signed: _____ Date: _____

Blackthorn Resolute · Standard Mediation Rate: R950/hour total (R475/hour per party when split · No VAT) · Initial 30-Minute Consultation Free · Confidentiality & Without Prejudice Reserved under Uniform Rule 41A.