**FCS Mediation Flow Chart**

**(for cases referred to FCS though the Court Review or Confirmations of Issues (COI) process)**

Note: Appointment letters are sent to clients and/or attorneys.

Only the parents/legal guardians (named in the case) attend the Mediation. The exception would be those allowed under the statute or a support person to be present if requested.

If a Court Appointed Special Assistant (CASA) or Guardian ad Litem (GAL) is assigned, FCS actions will be closed.

If Mediation is not successful, the case may be transferred to a Parenting Plan Evaluation

Alleged abuse/high conflict = Closure of Mediation and case may be transferred to a Parenting Plan Evaluation

Alleged abuse = Closure of Mediation and case is transferred to a Parenting Plan Evaluation

If parties agree or have alternate mediation secured, they may contact FCS to dismiss any further Mediation through FCS

If there is insufficient time to complete an Evaluation (90-120 days before trial) the case will go to trial before the judge

If Mediation is successful a Parenting Plan is drafted for signatures

Once both questionnaires come back (within six weeks & without allegations) a Mediation appointment is scheduled

Mediation appointment letters are sent to clients and/or attorneys

Questionnaires are screened for alleged abuse or high conflict

Confirmation of Issues (COI) is filed

FCS screens the case for Mediation appropriateness (no Domestic Violence, Sexual Abuse allegations)

Referred to FCS if there are children in common and there is no agreement on the Parenting Plan

If there are no allegations, the parties are sent Mediation Questionnaires to complete and return