

# MEDIATION

## NEIL'S STORY

SENIOR RELATIONSHIP MEDIATION SERVICE (SRMS)

### NEIL'S SITUATION

Neil had been living **independently and happily** in his home for many years.

After Neil **had a fall**, his son James and daughter-in-law Courtney came to his home to **look after him**. James and Courtney were only meant to stay for a short time, but ended up staying for **over a year**.

James and Courtney **weren't providing any care** to Neil, apart from occasionally driving him to medical appointments. They often took his car for hours, leaving him **isolated** at home and **unable to visit friends** or attend his usual activities.

Neil was also **paying all of the bills** for the house.

### CONTACTING THE SRMS

Neil's **older son** was concerned for his father and **contacted the SRMS**. Neil consented to the contact, as he was **upset** about the situation and **becoming depressed**.



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### **MEDIATION**

The family agreed to participate in mediation to work through the issues.

In mediation, the family decided that James and Courtney would look for other accommodation, and Neil would help them with the bond.

Together, they set a timeline of four months.

### **OUTCOME**

James and Courtney returned Neil's bank card to him. They decided on a roster for using the car so Neil could go back to his coffee catchups and board game group.

It ended up taking James and Courtney six months to move out.

However, the relationship between Neil, James, and Courtney improved – so Neil was pleased with the outcome.

*\*Names and details have been altered to protect our client's privacy.*



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