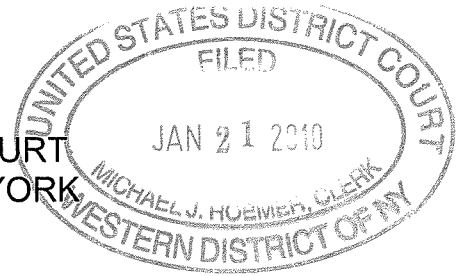


UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK



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In Re: Alternative Dispute Resolution Plan

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STANDING  
ORDER

The Alternative Dispute Resolution Act of 1998 (the “Act”) requires that each district court “authorize . . . the use of alternative dispute resolution processes in all civil actions,” 28 U.S.C. §651(b), and “adopt such improvements to [an existing] program as are consistent with the provisions and purposes of [the Act],” *Id.* at §651(c).

By Order dated August 22, 2005, the Judges of this Court concluded that mediation may most effectively “encourage and promote the use of alternative dispute resolution in [this] district,” 28 U.S.C. § 651(b), and adopted a Plan for Alternative Dispute Resolution in the United States District Court for the Western District of New York (the ADR Plan), which was implemented in calendar year 2006 through a pilot mediation program. Since then, the ADR Plan and pilot mediation program have been renewed annually.

Having reviewed the pilot program’s effectiveness, its statistics to date, and its favorable reception by litigants and the bar, the Judges of this Court agree that the ADR Plan shall remain in effect until further order. The ADR Plan shall apply to all new civil cases filed in the Western Division of the Western District of New York. All other civil cases are eligible to participate in the ADR Plan upon the stipulation

of all parties, or at the discretion of the assigned Judge.

SO ORDERED.

Buffalo and Rochester, New York

Dated: January 20, 2010

*/s/ William M. Skretny*  
William M. Skretny  
Chief United States District Judge

*/s/ Richard J. Arcara*  
Richard J. Arcara  
United States District Judge

*/s/ Charles J. Siragusa*  
Charles J. Siragusa  
United States District Judge

*/s/ John T. Curtin*  
John T. Curtin  
Senior United States District Judge

*/s/ Michael A. Telesca*  
Michael A. Telesca  
Senior United States District Judge

*/s/ David G. Larimer*  
David G. Larimer  
Senior United States District Judge