In the United States Court of Federal Claims

INTERIM GUIDANCE

This court periodically receives recommendations from its Advisory Council, a body established pursuant to Rule 83.4 of the Rules of the United States Court of Federal Claims. At its meeting on November 19, 2015, the members of the Advisory Council recommended that the court adopt revisions to its alternative dispute resolution (ADR) program.

The changes proposed by the Advisory Council will be considered by the court's Rules Committee in the near future; at this time, however, the court offers the following interim guidance regarding the use of ADR at the court.

The ADR Automatic Referral Program established by General Order No. 44 (June 21, 2007) remains in effect, establishing that cases "assigned to certain judges (hereinafter, the presiding judge) shall automatically and simultaneously be referred to certain other judges of the court (the ADR judge) for ADR consideration." At this time, participating presiding judges are Judges Mary Ellen Coster Williams, Lynn J. Bush, and Edward J. Damich, and participating ADR judges are Judges Marian Blank Horn and Eric G. Bruggink.

Regardless of whether a case is part of the Automatic Referral Program, parties have the additional option to request that a case be referred to any preferred ADR judge or private third-party neutral to mediate a dispute. This decision should be made independently by the parties.

Patricia E. Campbell-Smith

CHIEF JUDGE