



**Michigan Supreme Court  
State Court Administrative Office**

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John D. Ferry, Jr., State Court Administrator

December 10, 1997

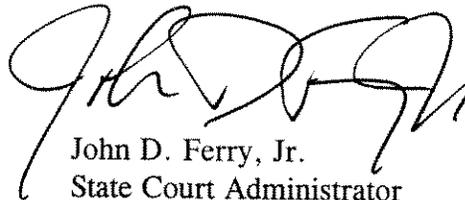
Hon. Paul H. Chamberlain  
Trial Court Chief Judge  
21st Circuit Court  
Isabella County Courthouse  
200 N. Main St.  
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

Re: Administrative Order 1997-12D  
Mediation

Dear Judge Chamberlain:

This is to advise that we have reviewed the above referenced Administrative Order and find that it conforms with the requirements of MCR 8.112(B). This order is being accepted and filed until advised by your court of any change.

Sincerely,



John D. Ferry, Jr.  
State Court Administrator

JDF/bru

cc: J. Bruce Kilmer, Regional Administrator, Region 3  
Mr. Lance Dexter, C21

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
ISABELLA COUNTY TRIAL COURT

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 1997-12

Re: Selection of Mediators & Mediation Panels

PURSUANT TO MCR 2.404 the Isabella County Trial Court, adopts the following procedure for the selection of mediators and mediation panels.

1. **RESCISSION OF PRIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS**  
This Administrative Order is adopted pursuant to MCR 2.404 and is effective on October 1, 1997. This Administrative Order rescinds Administrative Order No. 1993-2, Administrative Order No. 1988-1, and Administrative Order No. 1985-2.
2. **APPOINTMENT OF MEDIATION CLERK**  
The mediation clerk shall be appointed by the Chief Judge of the Isabella County Trial Court.
3. **APPLICATIONS FOR PROSPECTIVE MEDIATORS**  
Prospective mediators shall be required to fill out an application form (MC 34). Applications will be available at the office of the Mediation Clerk.
4. **MEDIATOR ELIGIBILITY**
  - a. The applicant must have been a practicing lawyer for at least 5 years and be a member in good standing with the State Bar of Michigan.
  - b. The applicant must reside, maintain an office, or have an active practice in Isabella County.
  - c. The applicant must demonstrate that a substantial portion of the applicant's practice for the last 5 years has been devoted to civil litigation.
  - d. If an insufficient number of mediators exist in a pool the mediation clerk may accept applications from mediators who live, maintain an office, or have an active practice in any of the adjoining counties.
5. **REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS**  
The mediation clerk shall review the mediator applications and place all qualifying individuals on the mediator list. All mediators must requalify yearly.
6. **DENIAL OF APPLICATION TO SERVE**  
Applicants who are denied being placed on the mediator list shall be notified in writing of the basis for the decision by the Mediation Clerk.
7. **PROCEDURE FOR RECONSIDERATION OF DENIAL**  
Applicants who are denied may seek reconsideration of the

decision by requesting the same in writing and forwarding the written request to the Chief Judge within ten (10) days from the date of the denial. The request shall be reviewed by a committee consisting of the Chief Judge, Presiding Judge and Mediation Clerk. Applicants will be notified in writing of the decision of the committee regarding the reconsideration.

8. **REMOVAL OF MEDIATOR FROM LIST OF MEDIATORS**

Should any person demonstrate incompetency, bias, make themselves consistently unavailable to serve as a mediator, or for any other just cause, the Mediation Clerk shall notify said person in writing that their name is being removed from the list of mediators and the reason for said removal.

9. **PROCEDURE FOR RECONSIDERATION OF REMOVAL**

Persons who are removed from the list of mediators may seek reconsideration of the decision by requesting the same in writing and forwarding the written request to the Chief Judge within (1) days from the date of the removal. The request shall be reviewed by a committee consisting of the Chief Judge and mediation clerk, and written notification of the decision of the committee regarding the reconsideration will be forwarded to the petitioner.

10. **COMPOSITION OF MEDIATOR POOL**

The mediator pool shall be divided into three (3) categories:

- \* One comprised of attorneys who primarily represent civil plaintiffs.
- \* One comprised of attorneys who primarily represent civil defendants.
- \* One comprised of attorneys engaged in civil litigation who do not perform a majority of their work for either plaintiffs or defendants.

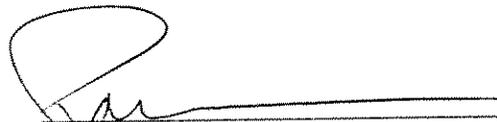
11. **SELECTION OF MEDIATOR PANELS**

The mediation clerk shall randomly select mediators to assure that each mediator has the same opportunity to be assigned to cases.

12. **ORIENTATION/TRAINING**

The mediation clerk shall supply all mediators initially with written materials explaining this Court mediation procedures.

Date: 11/5/97

  
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Hon. Paul H. Chamberlain, Chief Judge  
Isabella County Trial Court