

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA  
HAMMOND DIVISION

Plaintiff, )  
v. ) CAUSE NO.:  
Defendant. )

**NOTICE OF RULE 16 PRELIMINARY PRETRIAL CONFERENCE**

In accordance with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 16, this cause is now set for a **Telephonic Preliminary Pretrial Conference before Magistrate Judge Paul R. Cherry on \*\*\* at \*\*\* (Chicago/Hammond time).** The Court will call all counsel/parties listed on the docket sheet unless it is notified that specified attorneys need not be contacted. Parties may contact the Courtroom Deputy Clerk, Sue Brown, at (219) 852-6703 with any change in telephone number for the conference no earlier than (48) hours of the conference.

Within 20 days of receipt of this Notice, counsel shall indicate whether their clients are willing to consent to transfer this case to a Magistrate Judge for all purposes, including trial, by executing and submitting the attached consent form to the courtroom deputy at *sue\_brown@innd.uscourts.gov* or by depositing same in the U.S. mail directed to the Clerk's Office.

**At the conference counsel shall be prepared to address the following:**

**1. A proposed Discovery Plan under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f) to be filed no later than five (5) business days prior to the pretrial conference.** Counsel are directed to the court's website, *innd.uscourts.gov*, "Info/Forms" for a suitable form of report and discovery plan ("Report of Parties' Planning Meeting"). At the conference the court will address those topics listed at Rule 16(b) and (c). Failure to timely file the report and proposed discovery plan may result in the imposition of sanctions in accordance with Rule 16(f). At the conference, it is anticipated that the court will approve or modify the Report of Parties' Planning Meeting and set a trial date.

**2. Consideration of the various forms of Alternative Dispute Resolution ("ADR"), including mediation.** If mediation is selected, the parties shall identify the mediator and in the event counsel cannot agree on a mediator then the court will make the selection. Counsel may review the list of mediators located on the court's website under *Info/Forms*, prior to the preliminary pretrial conference.

ENTERED this \*\* day of \*\*\*, \*\*\*.

s/ Paul R. Cherry  
United States Magistrate Judge