UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

IN RE: A GENERAL ORDER)
OF THE COURT)

ORDER

The Court shall follow the provisions of Local Rule 16.6(b) in every case unless the case is exempt by operation of Local Rule 16.1(b). Accordingly, in every case in which a Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f) report is submitted, the parties **and the Court** shall consider the use of an Alternative Dispute Resolution Process (hereafter "ADR Process"), such as mediation. A settlement conference conducted by a judicial officer is not an ADR Process. *See*, Local Rule 16.6(b).

Following the consideration of that proposed ADR Process which the parties wish to employ, if any, as well as when that process should be undertaken, the Court shall, if the Court approves, incorporate the process in the Court's scheduling order entered in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 16 (b)(6) and (c)(9). If the Court disapproves of the ADR Process proposed by the parties, or upon consideration determines that no ADR Process is to be employed in the case, the Court shall make specific findings on the record establishing good cause therefore.

If Mediation is the ADR Process selected by the parties and approved by the Court, either the name of the Mediator or the date by which his or her name will be supplied to the Court shall be specified in the scheduling order.

This Order is also not to discourage or prevent the agreed adoption of an ADR Process in any case in which a Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(f) report is not required.

2003-21

SO ORDERED this 9th day of July, 2003.

/s/ Robert L. Miller, Jr.
Robert L. Miller, Jr., Chief Judge

/s/ Rudy Lozano
Rudy Lozano, Judge

/s/ Allen Sharp
Allen Sharp, Judge

/s/ Philip P. Simon
Philip P. Simon, Judge

/s/ William C. Lee
William C. Lee, Judge

/s/ Theresa L. Springmann
Theresa L. Springmann, Judge

/s/ James T. Moody
James T. Moody, Judge