UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

IN RE:	General Order Concerning Case Management	)))

ORDER

This General Order is to more fully effectuate this Court's General Orders dated June 30, 2003 "In re: Utilization of United States Magistrate Judges" and July 9, 2003, concerning Alternative Dispute Resolution ("ADR").

Promptly after all parties have appeared, and in no event later than 42 days after the filing of the Complaint, the Clerk shall bring the case to the attention of the judicial officer who will be conducting the initial Fed.R.Civ.P. 16 Scheduling Conference. The presiding judicial officer shall then determine whether a Scheduling Conference should be set, and if such a conference is to be held, it should be set within 100 days of the filing of the Complaint.

After a Scheduling Conference is set, the Clerk shall issue a notice to counsel and to any *pro se* party. The notice shall specify, *inter alia*, who shall attend the Scheduling Conference. In all cases, except in cases where a party is *pro se,* the notice shall also contain or refer to the following:

(1) A specimen form of the report to be submitted in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 26(f);

(2) the various forms of Alternative Dispute Resolution ("ADR") including mediation.

(3) A magistrate judge consent form to be returned to the Clerk within twenty (20) days of receipt.

At every Rule 16 Scheduling Conference in which a Rule 26(f) report is submitted the presiding judicial officer shall, *inter alia*, consider the use of an ADR method as defined in N.D. Ind. Local Rule 16.6(b). Following consideration of that proposed ADR method, the presiding judicial

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officer shall, upon approval, incorporate the method in the Court's scheduling order. If the presiding judicial officer disapproves of the ADR method proposed by the parties, or upon consideration determines that no ADR process is to be employed in the case, the presiding judicial officer shall make specific findings on the record establishing good cause therefore.

At the Rule 16 Scheduling Conference the presiding judicial officer may also set a trial date and/or such other hearings and conferences as may be deemed necessary.

SO ORDERED this 14th day of June, 2004

/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