

1.2 | PURPOSE AND SCOPE

A. Purpose. The United States District Court for the Western District of New York (the "Court") adopted the ADR Plan on January 1, 2006 (the "Effective Date"), to make available to civil litigants court-administered ADR interventions and processes designed to provide quicker, less expensive and potentially more satisfying alternatives to continuing litigation, without impairing the quality of justice or the right to trial.

B. Scope. This ADR Plan applies to civil actions pending or commenced on and after the Effective Date, except as otherwise indicated herein. The ADR Plan supplements this **Court's Local Rules of Civil Procedure**, which shall remain in full effect for all cases.

C. Magistrate Judge Consent Cases. Consistent with Local Rule of Civil Procedure 72.1, in cases where the parties have consented to jurisdiction by a **Magistrate Judge** under 28 U.S.C. §636, the Magistrate Judge shall have the same powers as the District Court Judge originally assigned to the case.

D. Plan Administration.

1. Staffing. The Court will seek funding for staff to coordinate and implement the ADR Plan. In the interim, the Court will utilize current staff and seek volunteers to assist in implementation.

2. ADR Information and Guidelines. Information about the ADR Plan, the Court's proposed Local Rule for mediation and guidelines for the conduct of ADR are available at <http://www.nywd.uscourts.gov/adr/> and also at the Court Clerk's office.²

3. All inquiries about the ADR Plan should be directed to:

Judy S. Hernandez, Staff Attorney
U.S. District Court
68 Court Street
Buffalo, New York 14202
Telephone: (716) 332-7826
Fax: (716) 332-7825
e-mail: Judy_Hernandez@nywd.uscourts.gov

*(US District Court, New York, Western District // Buffalo, NY 14202
Judy Hernandez, Staff Attorney)*

