UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

In Re:	(	
	(	
Voluntary Mediation	(	General Order
	(	
	(	
	(	

The Court being mindful that mediation offers an opportunity for parties to resolve legal disputes with less cost and time and to the satisfaction of the parties, and that parties to adversary proceedings or contested matters should be encouraged to consider mediation as a method of resolution at the time of the first scheduling conference or preliminary hearing; and

The Court finding that it is appropriate to establish a voluntary mediation program to be available to litigants and counsel as an alternate method of resolving disputes; and the court further finding that such a mediation program should be voluntary, court-annexed, with mediators appointed and cases assigned by the court and the process court directed; and

The Court further finding that the adoption of a voluntary mediation program is not meant to preclude parties to a dispute in any manner from pursuing any other form of alternate dispute resolution agreed to by the parties;

NOW THEREFORE the following Voluntary Mediation Program is hereby adopted effective upon the establishment of a Panel of Mediators.

A. Assignment to Mediation Program

Any Adversary Proceeding or Contested Matter may be assigned by the Court to the Mediation Program. In any Mediation in which a bankruptcy estate is a party, compliance with 11 U.S.C. 327 is required.

B. Bankruptcy Mediation Panel

The judges of the Bankruptcy Court shall establish and maintain a list of qualified mediators to serve as mediators in Adversary Proceedings and Contested Matters pending before the Court.

1. All attorneys, Rule 9 Interns and non-lawyers seeking to be appointed to the Bankruptcy Court Mediation Panel shall:

   a. Submit an application to the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court in the form attached as Exhibit "A;" and

   b. Have completed a Bankruptcy Mediation orientation and training program

as prescribed by the Bankruptcy Court; and

c. Agree to voluntarily mediate one pro bono matter every six (6) months; and

d. Agree to serve on the Bankruptcy Court Mediation Panel for two (2) years.

2. Attorney applicants shall have been a member in good standing of the bar of any state or the District of Columbia for at least three (3) years and currently be admitted to practice before the bar of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Washington.

3. Rule 9 Intern applicants shall be admitted to practice under Rule 9 of the Admission to Practice Rules for the State of Washington.

C. Compensation to Mediators

Other than matters to be mediated on a pro bono basis, mediators will be compensated as agreed by the parties. Where compensation from a bankruptcy estate is contemplated, 11 U.S.C. 330 will apply.

D. Assignment to Mediation

Assignment of a matter to the Mediation Program and appointment of a mediator will be by court order. Conduct during a mediation, once assigned, shall comply with the procedural requirements established by the court.

DATED this 20 day of January 2000.

Patricia C. Williams
Chief Bankruptcy Judge

John A. Rossmeissl
Bankruptcy Judge

John M. Klobucher
Bankruptcy Judge

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO BANKRUPTCY MEDIATION PANEL
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

Notes: (1) Each application must be accompanied by a separate biographical statement of no more than three hundred (300) words in length. An application which does not include such a statement will not be considered.

(2) If additional space is needed to respond to any item on this application, attach a separate page.

(3) This application may be used by lawyers, Rule 9 legal interns, and non-lawyers.

Name: _____

Office Address: _____
(Street)

_____
(City) (State) (Zip Code)

Office Phone: _____ Office Fax: _____

I. ATTORNEY APPLICANTS

1. Dates of Admission:

Washington Bar: _____ State Bar No. _____

Eastern District of Washington: _____

Other Bars: _____ State Bar No. _____

II. NON-ATTORNEY APPLICANTS

1. List three matters in which you have resolved disputed issues in a mediation or other alternative dispute resolution format.

	Matter Description	Dates	Capacity Description
a.			
b.			
c.			

2. List any professional organization of which you are an active member, the length of your membership and any positions held and/or projects completed.

3. List any professional licenses you hold and include dates of admission.

4. List any relevant bankruptcy experience.

III. RULE 9 INTERNS

Persons eligible to practice pursuant to Local Rule 9010(a)(2) are eligible to participate in the Bankruptcy Mediation Program. List the date of admission to limited practice under Rule 9 of the Admission to Practice Rules of Washington Court Rules.

Admission Date: _____

IV. ALL APPLICANTS

1. List any state mediation, federal mediation or other alternative dispute resolution training that you have completed which has been qualified as continuing professional education credit or which has been approved by a court of competent jurisdiction.

2. List any state mediation, federal mediation or other alternative dispute resolution program(s) in which you have participated and indicate in what capacity you have participated in such program(s), e.g., as a mediator, counsel for a party in a mediation, etc.

3. List any relevant experience, skills, or other information which you would like considered in connection with this application.

4. List any honors.

5. List any publications.

6. List speaking engagements, panel/seminar participation, teaching experience, etc.

7. Check the county(ies) in which you are not willing and not available to conduct mediation conferences:

_____	Adams	_____	Klickitat
_____	Asotin	_____	Lincoln
_____	Benton	_____	Okanagan
_____	Chelan	_____	Pend Orielle
_____	Columbia	_____	Skamania
_____	Douglas	_____	Spokane
_____	Ferry	_____	Stevens
_____	Franklin	_____	Walla Walla
_____	Garfield	_____	Whitman
_____	Grant	_____	Yakima
_____	Kittitas		

V. CERTIFICATION

/ / I am applying for appointment as an attorney mediator. I certify that I am a member in good standing of the state and federal bar(s) listed above. I further certify that the foregoing is true and correct.

/ / I am applying for appointment as a non-attorney mediator. I certify that I am a member in good standing of my profession. I further certify that the foregoing is true and correct.

/ / I am applying for appointment as a Rule 9 legal intern mediator. I certify that I am admitted to limited practice under Rule 9 of the Admission to Practice Rules for the State of Washington. I further certify that the foregoing is true and correct.

I consent to disclosure of the information contained in this Application to court personnel and to the parties and their representatives whose matters have been referred to the Bankruptcy Mediation Program.

DATED: _____ SIGNATURE: _____