

LRCiv 83.10

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

As early as the scheduling conference held under Rule 16(b), Fed. R. Civ. P., or at any time requested by the parties, the court may offer or parties may request to refer the action to a magistrate judge for the purpose of holding a timely settlement conference (mediation), minitrial, summary jury trial, early neutral evaluation, or other form of dispute resolution. The court may require the parties to participate in alternative dispute resolution only with respect to mediation and early neutral evaluation. 28 U.S.C. § 652(a). Alternative dispute resolution shall not be offered as a reason to delay the processing of the case as established in the Rule 16 scheduling order. This Local Rule is promulgated pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 651(b) and 28 U.S.C. § 652(a).