

JUDICIAL DISTRICT 20A
ANSON AND RICHMOND COUNTIES

EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2003

9. MEDIATION:

9.4 APPOINTMENT OF MEDIATORS BY THE COURT: If the parties cannot agree upon the selection of a mediator, the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney shall so notify the court and request, on behalf of the parties, that the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge appoint a mediator. The motion must be filed within 21 days after the court's order and shall state that the attorneys for the parties have had a full and frank discussion concerning the selection of a mediator and have been unable to agree. The motion shall be on an AOC. form. The motion shall state whether any party prefers a certified attorney mediator, and if so, the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge shall appoint a certified attorney mediator. The motion may state that all parties prefer a certified non-attorney mediator, and if so the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge shall appoint a certified non-attorney mediator if one is on the list of certified mediators desiring to mediate cases in the district. If no preference is expressed, the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge may appoint a certified attorney mediator or a certified non-attorney mediator.

- (a) Upon receipt of a motion to appoint a mediator, or in the event the plaintiff's attorney has not filed a notice of Selection or Nomination of Non-Certified Mediator with the court within 21 days of the court's order, the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge shall appoint a certified mediator. Only mediators who agree to mediate indigent cases without pay shall be appointed.
- (b) The general procedure for judicial appointment shall be to appoint the next certified mediator on the appropriate list who currently resides or maintains an office in this judicial district or a contiguous judicial district or who certifies in writing annually to the Senior Resident Superior Court Judge that he or she wishes to mediate in this judicial district, is familiar with these Local Mediation Rules, and will comply with them and the Supreme Court Rules. The Senior Resident Superior Court Judge shall retain discretion to depart from the general procedure in particular circumstances such as the appointment of one mediator to multiple related cases, the appointment of a mediator who is especially suited for a particular type of case, the appointment of a newly certified mediator, or to withhold a mediator who has not followed Local or Supreme Court Rules for appointment.

Adopted this the 11th day of August, 2003.

s/Michael E. Beale
Michael E. Beale
Senior Resident Superior Court Judge
Judicial District 20A
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