

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF GEORGIA
[Name of Division] DIVISION**

IN RE:	:	Chapter ____
	:	
[Name of Debtor(s)]	:	Case No. ____
Debtor(s).	:	
_____	:	
	:	
[Name(s) of Plaintiff(s)/Movant(s)]	:	
	:	
Plaintiff(s)/Movant(s),	:	
vs.	:	Adversary No. _____
	:	
Name(s) of Defendant(s)/Respondent(s)]	:	
	:	
Defendant(s)/Respondent(s)	:	

**ORDER AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING MEDIATION
AND SCHEDULING SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE**

Whereas the parties have requested that they be authorized to participate in mediation with regard to the issues in this proceeding, it appears that the most productive form of mediation is to designate a current bankruptcy judge with no assignment or responsibility for these

proceedings as a settlement judge to serve as a neutral mediator and that Judge **[Full name of mediating judge]** is qualified and suitable to serve in that capacity.

It is hereby **ORDERED**:

A Settlement Conference for the issues presented to the settlement judge is scheduled on the **1st day of Month, 2016 at 00:00 a.m. in the United States Bankruptcy Court, Courtroom Y, address, city, Georgia; and it is further ordered that:**

1. The parties to this proceeding shall mediate the issues and disputes presented in these proceedings. Judge **[Surname of mediating judge]** is designated as a settlement judge with regard to this matter for the purpose of conducting mediation proceedings as the neutral mediator. Judge **[Surname of the mediating judge]** will write a follow up letter to each party detailing his expectations and any further scheduling, logistic, or other requirements.

2. Because Judge **[Surname of mediating judge]** will be serving as the neutral mediator in this matter and because the nature of the mediation process requires ex parte contacts and communications between the neutral mediator and each of the sides, the prohibitions of FED. R. BANKR. P. 9003 do not apply to communications among the parties, their attorneys, and Judge **[Surname of mediating judge]** in connection with the mediation proceedings. The parties and their attorneys may, therefore, have ex parte communications with Judge **[Surname of mediating judge]** in his capacity as the neutral mediator in connection with the mediation proceedings.

3. All communications made by the parties or their attorneys to each other or to Judge **[Surname of mediating judge]** in connection with the mediation process, the conduct and demeanor of the parties and their counsel during the mediation, and any documents prepared or produced in connection with the mediation process, including Judge **[Surname of mediating**

judge]'s notes or records, shall be confidential and shall not be admissible in evidence or the subject of any discovery in any proceeding (unless admissible or discoverable without regard to the mediation). The mediation sessions and any conferences or proceedings in connection therewith shall be treated as compromise negotiations for purposes of the Federal Rules of Evidence, the Georgia Rules of Evidence, or any rules of evidence of any other jurisdiction. No record will be made of the mediation proceedings. Judge **[Surname of mediating judge]** is disqualified from appearing as a witness in any matter, and shall not be called as a witness, with regard to the mediation or any matter arising out of or related thereto.

END OF DOCUMENT

[If consent order, names and signatures of consenting attorneys may be added.]