

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

FILED

JUL 02 2025

IN RE: PARTICIPATION IN THE)
TENTH CIRCUIT MEDIATION) G.O. 25-4
PROGRAM)

JOAN KANE, CLERK
U.S. DIST. COURT, WESTERN DIST. OKLA.
BY , DEPUTY

ORDER

It is HEREBY ORDERED that all bankruptcy appeals proceeding before the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma, other than those involving pro se parties, shall be referred to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals Circuit Mediation Office (the "Circuit Mediation Office").

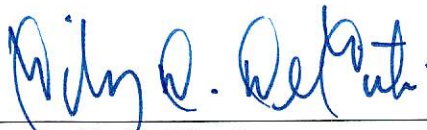
1. **Mediation Conference.** The Circuit Mediation Office may schedule and conduct mediation conferences in any matter referred to it by this Court. The primary purpose of a conference is to explore settlement, but case management matters may also be addressed.
2. **Participation of Counsel and Parties.** Counsel must participate in every scheduled mediation conference and in related discussions. Generally, a party may participate but need not unless required by the Circuit Mediation Office. Conferences are conducted by telephone unless the Circuit Mediation Office directs otherwise.
3. **Preparation of Counsel for Mediation Conferences; Settlement Authority.** Counsel must consult with their clients and obtain as much authority as feasible to settle the case and agree on case management matters in preparing for the initial conference. These obligations continue throughout the mediation process.
4. **Confidentiality.** Statements made during the conference and in related discussions, and any records of those statements, are confidential and must not be disclosed by anyone

(including the Circuit Mediation Office, counsel, or the parties and their agents or employees) to anyone not participating in the mediation process. Proceedings under this Order may not be recorded by counsel or the parties.

5. **Conference Order; Mediator Authority.** The Circuit Mediation Office may cause an order to be entered controlling the course of the case or the mediation proceedings including extending briefing deadlines. The Circuit Mediation Office and its mediators are delegates of this court. Any conference orders or other communications from the Circuit Mediation Office must be treated the same as any other court directive.
6. **Extensions for Ordering Transcripts or Filing Briefs; Deadlines.** The time allowed by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 8009 for ordering a transcript and by Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 8018 for filing briefs is not automatically tolled pending a conference. If a conference has been scheduled, counsel may contact the Circuit Mediation Office for an extension of time to order a transcript or to file a brief.
7. **Sanctions.** This Court may impose sanctions if counsel or a party violates this rule or any order entered under it.

Dated this 2nd day of July 2025.

BY THE COURT:



Timothy D. DeGiusti
Chief United States District Judge