

December 7, 2006

The Honorable Thomas D. Hall, Clerk
Supreme Court of Florida
500 South Duval Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1927

In Re: Petition of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Rules and Policy Committee on
Amendments to Florida Rules for Certified and Court-Appointed Mediators: SC 05-998

Dear Mr. Hall:

I only recently became aware of the Publication Notice, dated 11/1/06, in connection with the above matter. I am taking this opportunity to correspond (albeit late) with the Court because of my, admittedly selfish, interest in the Court's action on this matter.

I have been licensed to practice law in Georgia and Tennessee for approximately 25 years and have been a member of The Florida Bar since March 2004. However, I have never practiced law in the State of Florida, but rather have been providing mediation and arbitration services exclusively since moving to Florida in 1999. I was among the initial group of individuals certified under Rule 31 of the Supreme Court of Tennessee to provide mediation services in that state in 1997 and have been certified by the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Tennessee to provide mediation services since 1998. I have also been providing mediation services in the State of Georgia since approximately 1995. I took my initial mediation training through the Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia in 1992 and have taken numerous mediation training courses since then. I have probably mediated well over 250 matters over the past 11 years. I am currently the President of the Florida Chapter of ACR and am actively involved in publicizing ADR throughout the State. In 2002, I taught an ADR course at Georgia State University College of Law in Atlanta.

Under the present Florida Supreme Court requirements, I am not competent to become a Circuit Civil mediator! I would immediately become competent (pending satisfaction of the other certification requirements) if the Court were to adopt **either** the previously-submitted proposal of The Florida Bar or of the ADR Rules and Policy Committee. While I personally agree with the well-explained and well-reasoned proposal of the Committee, I am writing at this time to urge the Court to move forward on this matter as expeditiously as possible.

Yours very truly,

Kenneth Starr

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing comment was sent by first class U.S. mail, with proper postage affixed to:

The Honorable Shawn L Briese
125 East Orange Avenue, Room 106
Daytona Beach, FL 32118

This the 7th day of December, 2006

Kenneth R, Starr, Esquire
Florida Bar No. 699411
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