

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BUFFALO, NEW YORK – The U.S. District Court for the Western District of New York will be hosting “Settlement Week” in an effort to explore the potential for settlement with some of the older cases on the Court’s docket. The program will run from October 30 through November 8, at the Jackson Courthouse in Buffalo, and then from November 13 through 22, at the U.S. Courthouse in Rochester. Mediators from the Court’s ADR Program will be assigned to mediate the cases selected for Settlement Week, with the costs of the mediator fees to be paid by the Court.

Chief U.S. District Judge Frank P. Geraci, Jr., launched Settlement Week as part of his efforts to identify means by which to move cases through the system efficiently and deal with the Court’s heavy caseload. “Mediation has proven to be an effective tool for resolving cases, and this initiative will hopefully assist us in our constant struggle to keep up with the increasing caseload,” explained Chief Judge Geraci.

The committee planning the program is chaired by U.S. District Judge Elizabeth A. Wolford, and consists of Senior U.S. District Judge William M. Skretny, ADR Program Administrator Barry L. Radlin, Chief Deputy Clerk Patrick Healy, and ADR Program Law Clerk Amanda G. Brennan. Judge Skretny was instrumental in starting the Court’s ADR Program which is considered one of the most innovative and successful programs in the country. Settlement Week is intended to complement the existing ADR Program and target cases that either went through the Court’s automatic mediation prior to January 1, 2015, or have never participated in the ADR Program.

For additional information, contact: Barry Radlin, ADR Program Administrator, at 716-551-1511 or by email at barry_radlin@nywd.uscourts.gov.

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