

United States Bankruptcy Court Western District of Michigan

APPLICATION TO SERVE AS QUALIFIED NEUTRAL

The undersigned hereby certifies under penalty of perjury:

- (1) I am willing to serve as a Neutral and to undertake to evaluate or mediate settlement of matters subject only to unavailability due to conflicts, personal or professional commitments, or other matters which would make such service inappropriate.
- (2) I am, and have been, a member in good standing of the bar of the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan, and have regularly practiced in Bankruptcy Court for at least 10 years.
- (3) I have served as the principal attorney of record in active matters in at least 10 bankruptcy cases (without regard to the party represented) from case commencement to the earlier of the date of the application or conclusion of the case, or I have served as the principal attorney of record for a party in interest in at least 10 adversary proceedings or contested matters from commencement through conclusion.
- (4) I have completed the required 40-hour mediation training provided or approved by the Court and have attached a certificate of completion. (A court-approved training program includes a 40-hour program approved by the U.S. Department of Justice – National Advocacy Center and state court general civil mediation training programs, such as the one approved by the Michigan State Court Administrative Office pursuant to MCR 2.411(F)(2)(a) or another state's equivalent.)
- (5) I agree to be governed by any standards of professional conduct and ethical rules adopted by the Michigan Supreme Court for state-court mediators, as those standards and rules may be amended, and to comply with its advanced mediator training requirements of eight hours every two years.
- (6) I agree to mediate at least one *pro bono* matter per year and to abide by and to meet all of the rules and requirements established by the Bankruptcy Court under its Bankruptcy ADR Program.

Date: _____

Applicant's signature

Please return signed application and attachments to:

Shelli Freas, ADR Administrator
United States Bankruptcy Court
One Division North
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Or via email: shelli_freas@miwb.uscourts.gov