

**UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT**

CIVIL APPEALS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Pre-Argument Conference Guidelines

Pre-argument conferences are conducted by Staff Counsel in counseled civil appeals under Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure 33 and Rule 5 of the Civil Appeals Management Plan (C.A.M.P.), Rules of the Second Circuit, Appendix, Part C. All fully counseled civil appeals except prisoner and habeas corpus cases are included in the CAMP program. Participation in pre-argument conferences is mandatory.

I. PURPOSE

The purposes of mediation conferences is to explore the possibilities for settlement of the dispute, to prevent unnecessary motions or delay-- by attempting to resolve any procedural problems in the appeal, and to identify, clarify and simplify the issues submitted for review.

In an effort to enable the parties to resolve issues, Staff Counsel, who are full-time employees of the Second Circuit with extensive experience in appellate mediation, are ordinarily expected to give them the benefit of their views of the merits or other aspects of the appeal.

II. AUTHORITY AND ATTENDANCE

The success of the conference depends on the attorneys treating it as a serious and effective procedure which can not only save time and expense for the parties, but also provide an outcome better suited to their needs. All sides should be thoroughly prepared to discuss in depth the legal, factual and procedural issues. Prior to the conference, attorneys should discuss the matter with their clients and ascertain their goals in resolving the litigation. They should be prepared to negotiate in good faith and express their views on the merits of their case as well as their client's interests. Attorneys who attend the mediation should be those who have the broadest authority from and the greatest influence with the client. Attorneys should obtain advance authority from their clients to make such commitments as may reasonably be anticipated.

III. CLIENT PARTICIPATION

If feasible, counsel should have their clients available by telephone at the time of the mediation. The Court strongly encourages the parties to participate at every stage of the mediation process. Ordinarily, attorneys are expected to attend the conference without their clients. However, with the permission of Staff Counsel, or when appropriate-- as required by Staff Counsel, clients may attend with their attorneys. Staff Counsel does NOT talk with clients outside of the presence of their attorneys.

IV. CONFERENCE LOCATION

Conferences are usually in person at the offices of Staff Counsel located in the Woolworth Building, 233 Broadway 6th Floor, New York, NY. However, where considerable distances or other significant reasons warrant, Staff Counsel will, in their discretion, arrange to conduct the conference over the telephone or by video if available.

V. GOOD FAITH PARTICIPATION

The parties are obligated to participate in the mediation process in good faith with a view to resolving differences as to the merits and other issues in the case. This process requires each attorney, regardless of how strong his or her views are, to exercise a degree of objectivity, patience, cooperation and self-control that will permit the attorney to negotiate based upon reason. The conference provides a neutral forum for appraisal of the case and examination of means to expedite the matter. Staff Counsel may offer their own views and are entitled to the attorney's respect and careful consideration of those views. They are, of course, the individual views of the mediator and are not those of the Court. No attorney or party is obligated to agree with the mediator or under any compulsion to reach an agreement to which they believe in good conscience they cannot agree to.

Mediation is not productive when counsel are not adequately prepared, present extreme positions, maintain fixed positions, and engage in hard, bottom-line bargaining. Counsel should be realistic in approaching the mediation. Mediation is most productive when counsel are conversant with the law and the facts in an appeal and are fully aware of their client's interests, goals and needs. Moreover, they should strive to understand, but not necessarily agree with, the views of opposing counsel on the law and facts and the goals, interests and needs of their clients.

VI. MANDATORY PARTICIPATION

Although the mediation sessions are relatively informal, they are official proceedings of the Court. Sanctions may be imposed against any party who fails to appear for the mediation or otherwise participate fully.

VII. CONFIDENTIALITY

All matters discussed at a pre-argument conference, including the views of Staff Counsel as to the merits, are completely confidential and are not communicated to any member of the Court. Nothing said by any participant to the session is to be disclosed to the judges of the court or judges of any other court that might address the appeal's merits. The mediator's notes do not become part of the Court's file nor anything submitted by the attorneys or parties to Staff Counsel pertaining to the merits. Any ex parte communications are also confidential except to the extent disclosure is authorized. The Court strictly enforces this rule. Likewise, parties are also prohibited from advising members of the Court or any unauthorized third parties of discussions or actions taken at the conference (*Calka v. Kucker Kraus & Bruh*, 167 F.3d 144/145 (2d Cir. 1999)). Thus, the Court never knows what transpired at the conference.

VIII. GRIEVANCES

Any grievances regarding the handling of any case in the C.A.M.P. program should be addressed to Elizabeth Cronin, Director of Legal Affairs, 40 Foley Square, New York, New York 10007.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT
STAFF COUNSEL'S OFFICE
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T #: (212) 857-8760
F #: (212) 857-8756

County of Suffolk v. U.S. N.R.C

Docket NO. 05-6684-ag

TELEPHONIC PRE-ARGUMENT CONFERENCE NOTICE AND ORDER

For the convenience of counsel, a telephonic PRE-ARGUMENT CONFERENCE has been scheduled for **Friday January 20, 2006 at 4:00 P.M.** The conference should be initiated by appellant's counsel, who should first have all appellees' counsel on the line, and then call Staff Counsel at this conference line number: **(212) 857-8761.**

To effectuate the purposes of the Conference, **the attorneys in charge of the appeal or proceeding are required to attend and must:**

- (1) have full authority to settle or otherwise dispose of the appeal or proceeding;
- (2) be fully prepared to discuss and evaluate seriously the legal merit of each issue on appeal or review;
- (3) be prepared to narrow, eliminate, or clarify issues on appeal when appropriate.

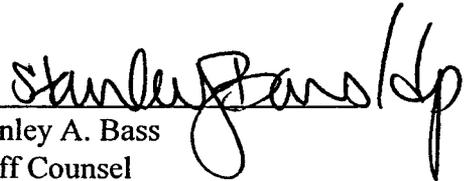
Any other matters which the Staff Counsel determines may aid in the handling or the disposition of the proceedings may be discussed. Counsel may raise any other pertinent matter they wish at the Conference.

* **To insure that all parties have received notice of the scheduled pre-argument conference, counsel should confirm with each other the time and place of the conference at least 48 hours prior to the conference.**

** **Counsel are requested to call (212) 857-8760, upon receipt of this notice, in order to confirm.**

Date: _____

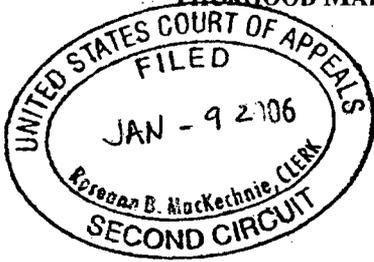
Roseann B. MacKechnie, Clerk
by:


Stanley A. Bass
Staff Counsel

PETITION FOR REVIEW

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT
THURGOOD MARSHALL U.S. COURT HOUSE

AG: NRC
G#: 50-336-LR



County of Suffolk v. U.S. N.R.C

Docket NO. 05-6684-ag

AGENCY APPEAL SCHEDULING ORDER #

Address inquiries to:
(212) 857-8544

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the certified list of material comprising the record or the record with a certified list (FRAP 17(b)), shall be filed on or before February 3, 2006.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the brief of petitioner(s) and the joint appendix shall be filed on or before February 10, 2006.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the brief(s) of the respondent(s) shall be filed on or before March 13, 2006.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the ten (10) copies of each brief shall be filed with the Clerk.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the argument of the appeal shall be heard no earlier than the week of April 24, 2006. All counsel should immediately advise the Clerk by letter of the dates thereafter that they are unavailable for oral argument. The time and place of oral argument shall be separately noticed by the Clerk to counsel.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in the event of default by the petitioner in filing the record on appeal or the petitioner's brief and joint appendix, at the times directed, or upon default of the petitioner regarding any other provision of this order, the appeal may be dismissed forthwith without further notice.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that if the respondent fails to file a brief within the time directed by this order, such respondent shall be subject to such sanctions as the court may deem appropriate.

Date: _____

Roseann B. MacKechnie, Clerk
by:


Stanley A. Bass
Staff Counsel