

**ORDER OF THE SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS**

Misc. Docket No. 96-9125

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**ORDER CREATING  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON COURT-ANNEXED MEDIATIONS**

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1. In August 1995, the Alternative Dispute Resolution Section of the State Bar of Texas formally requested the Supreme Court of Texas to undertake to create a self-funding entity that would function under the auspices of the Court and perform a "final oversight" role in the area of credentialing mediators in Texas.

2. Since that time, others in the mediation field have indicated that the Court should serve in some capacity in the oversight of court-annexed mediations.

3. The Court has determined that, at a minimum, ethical rules governing court-annexed mediations and mediators should be implemented and enforced. The Court is also considering whether some level of credentialing is necessary and appropriate.

4. Accordingly, the Court hereby creates an Advisory Committee to examine these issues and to make recommendations to the Court. The Committee's task includes but is not limited to the formulation of ethical rules for court-annexed mediations and mediators and recommendations on the structure and composition of a commission or similar body to enforce those rules. The proposed ethical rules should address, among other matters, the avoidance of conflicts of interest, and the timely disclosure of fees and potential conflicts of interest. With respect to the question of credentialing, the Court requests the Committee to investigate and to

give careful consideration to whether credentialing under the auspices of the Court is needed or desirable, and if so, to make specific recommendations in areas that may include the substantive requirements that should be fulfilled by mediators and those who provide training and continuing education to mediators, as well as recommendations on how credentialing might be implemented procedurally.

5. The Commission is encouraged to consult with, among others, the National Center for State Courts, the National Judicial College, the judges and personnel of the courts of Texas and other jurisdictions, the members of the Legislative departments, and the public.

6. It is ORDERED that the members of the Advisory Committee on Court-Annexed Mediations shall be:

Tony Alvarado

Hon. Tom McDonald

Karl Bayer

Hon. Margaret Mirabal

Gary Condra

Lanelle Montgomery

Herb Cook

William M. Morris

Hon. Suzanne Covington

Hon. Jay Patterson

Claude Ducloux

Ross Rommel

Suzanne Duvall

Michael J. Schless

John Estes

Maxel "Bud" Silverberg

Hon. Frank Evans

Rena Silverberg

Hon. Charles Gonzalez

Sid Stahl

Carol Hoffman

Bruce Stratton

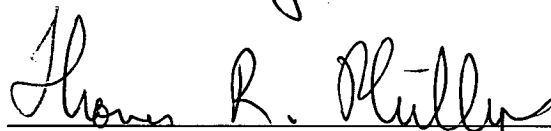
Dr. Lou Lasher

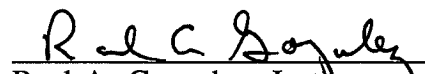
Michael Wolf


Bill Low

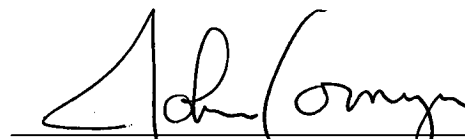
7. The Court requests that the Committee report its findings and recommendations no later than January 15, 1997.

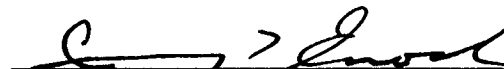
SIGNED, this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1996.


  
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Thomas R. Phillips, Chief Justice


  
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Raul A. Gonzalez, Justice

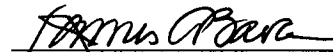
  
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Nathan L. Hecht, Justice


  
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John Cornyn, Justice

  
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Craig Enoch, Justice

  
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Rose Spector, Justice

  
Priscilla R. Owen, Justice

  
James A. Baker, Justice

  
Greg Abbott, Justice