

## **Rule 9019-2 SCOPE AND EFFECT OF MEDIATION**

(a) The Court may assign any matter to the Mediation Program for the Western District of Pennsylvania (the “Mediation Program”) *sua sponte*, upon motion or stipulation of the parties to the matter or the United States trustee. The Court may order additional parties to participate in the mediation as necessary.

(b) The Court may assign to mediation any dispute arising in the bankruptcy case or in any adversary proceeding, contested matter, or otherwise. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7016 is hereby made applicable to all matters in which mediation is requested in accordance with the Mediation Program.

(c) The assignment of a matter to mediation does not relieve the parties to that matter from complying with any other Court orders or applicable provisions of the Bankruptcy Code, the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure, or the Local Bankruptcy Rules of this Court. The assignment to mediation stays all discovery, pretrial, hearing dates, and trial schedules. The Court will issue a scheduling order and set deadlines for the mediation to conclude and for the discovery, pretrial, and trial to resume.