

Amended Notice re Procedures for ADR Cases and Cases Subject to General Order 56 During
Coronavirus Public Health Emergency

On April 21, 2020, Chief Judge Phyllis Hamilton approved the following amended procedures applicable to cases referred to ENE or Mediation through the Court's ADR Program:

The requirement of in-person attendance set forth in ADR L.R. 5-10 and 6-10 is suspended, and no in-person ENE or mediation sessions shall take place, until further notice. Parties must meet and confer with one another and consult with their assigned neutral regarding the appropriate timing and format for their session. If they agree to proceed via videoconference or agree to wait until an in-person session is permissible, the parties must submit to the assigned judge a stipulation and proposed order specifying the terms of their agreement. Proposed orders must indicate the scheduled date of the session and should extend the ADR deadline, if necessary. If no agreement is reached, the parties must submit to the assigned judge a brief joint letter setting forth their respective reasons for postponing or proceeding with the session. If technical barriers preclude a party from participating by video, the assigned neutral may authorize telephonic participation for that party.

On March 25, 2020, Chief Judge Phyllis Hamilton approved the following procedures applicable to ADA Access cases subject to General Order 56:

In any case subject to General Order 56, the ADR Program will reject a notice of need for mediation unless the parties have held both an in-person joint site inspection and an in-person settlement meeting. No such in-person events are permissible so long as California Executive Order N-33-20 remains in effect and requires all individuals to stay home. Accordingly, all deadlines for conducting the joint site inspection and the settlement meeting required by General Order 56 will be deemed tolled until further notice.