



# **CPR LEGAL PROGRAM**

TO DEVELOP ALTERNATIVES TO LITIGATION

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** CHIEF JUDGES, U.S. DISTRICT COURTS  
CHAIRPERSONS, CIVIL JUSTICE REFORM ACT ADVISORY GROUPS

**FROM:** JAMES F. HENRY  
PRESIDENT, CPR LEGAL PROGRAM

**DATE:** MARCH 30, 1993

**SUBJECT:** STATEMENT OF CONCERNS AND PRINCIPLES  
REGARDING COURT-RELATED ADR

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At this midpoint in the implementation of the Civil Justice Reform Act of 1990, we are enclosing a statement of concerns and principles regarding court-related alternative dispute resolution (ADR). The Statement is issued by 38 federal judges, justice system officials, academics and counsel, all members of the Center for Public Resources (CPR) Judicial Project Advisory Council.

The Center for Public Resources\CPR Legal Program is a national non-profit organization working to develop cost-effective ways to resolve and manage major civil disputes. CPR's 530 members include the general counsel of 250 major corporations, senior partners of leading U.S. law firms, prominent legal scholars, and selected public institutions and federal judges.

The CPR Judicial Project studies ADR's role in the public civil justice system and provides ADR information and assistance to federal and state courts. As you will see from the enclosed statement, the Judicial Project is committed to helping inform the soundness and quality of ADR program planning and implementation in the federal courts.

The concerns expressed by the CPR Judicial Project Advisory Council focus on the fundamentals of federal court ADR development. The 800-word statement urges justice system officials and legislators to support ADR programming with sustained, adequate funding; to develop ADR programs of the highest quality; and to be mindful of ADR's values as well as its limitations in a severely-strained public justice system.

We believe the statement raises serious concerns that warrant serious attention by the judiciary and Congress. Accordingly, the statement is also being sent to the Judicial Conference, the Federal Judicial Center and the House and Senate Judiciary and Appropriations Committee.

If we can answer any questions or provide additional information, I hope you will let us know.

JFH/as

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