L. RALPH MECHAM DIRECTOR

JAMES E. MACKLIN, JR. DEPUTY DIRECTOR ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES COURTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20544

DUANE REX LEE CHIEF, COURT ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

March 8, 1993

## MEMORANDUM TO L. RALPH MECHAM

## SUBJECT: Committee on Court Administration and Case Management Subcommittee on Case Management Meeting, April 1, 1993

The Committee on Court Administration and Case Management's Subcommittee on Case Management is scheduled to meet on April 1, 1993. In addition to the review of several Expense and Delay Reduction Plans adopted since its last meeting, the Subcommittee will begin to explore approaches and long term strategies for effective civil case management in federal courts. In light of the proposed structural changes limiting the size of the judiciary included in the Committee's report to the Committee on Long Range Planning and the demands placed upon courts by the Civil Justice Reform Act of 1990, Judge Parker has shifted the Committee's focus of activity to this area. Specifically, the Subcommittee will consider whether federal courts should embrace the concept of becoming Comprehensive Justice Centers. Under this concept, litigants would utilize any number of dispute resolution procedures with judicial officer oversight and only a limited number of cases would utilize traditional pre-trial procedures.

Judge Parker has asked that we convene a group of select experts in the area of ADR and multi-door courthouse for the purpose of a roundtable discussion similar to the one conducted by the Subcommittee on Court Governance in the early stages of its review of court structure and governance. Judge Parker has indicated his desire to include Frank Sander, a noted professor at Harvard and Eric Green who has served as a special master on asbestos litigation in Massachusetts. In addition, the judge has asked that we identify one or two local people with special expertise and interest in this area. As a result, I do not anticipate an expense greater than \$3,500. This expense will be submitted under the same appropriation used for costs incurred by Judicial Conference committee meetings.

Subcommittee on Case Management, April 1, 1993 Page 2

The purpose of this memorandum is to request your approval for the reimbursement of expenses to 3 or 4 individuals outside the federal judiciary selected by the Committee for participation in this project. General Counsel has in the past, indicated that you have the authority to approve such reimbursement.

DUANE R. LEE

**APPROVE:** 

DISAPPROVE:

DATE:

DATE:

L. RALPH MECHAM DIRECTOR

JAMES E. MACKLIN, JR. DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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