

# United States Court of Appeals

For the Seventh Circuit  
Chicago, IL 60604

June 17, 2021

SUSAN DOXTATOR, et al.,	] Appeal from the United
Plaintiffs-Appellants,	] States District Court for
	] the Eastern District of
No. 21-2101	] Wisconsin.
v.	]
	] No. 1:19-cv-00137-WCG
ERIK O'BRIEN, et al.,	]
Defendants-Appellees.	] William C. Griesbach,
	] Judge.

## **NOTICE OF RULE 33 MEDIATION**

Pursuant to Rule 33 of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure and Circuit Rule 33, a **telephonic** mediation has been scheduled in this appeal.

**Date:** Friday, July 9, 2021.

**Time:** 2:00p.m. (Central Time)

Rule 33 mediations vary in length and often exceed two hours. Participants should schedule no other activities for the remainder of the afternoon.

**Circuit Mediator:** Joel N. Shapiro  
Joel\_shapiro@ca7.uscourts.gov  
312-582-7381

### **Contact Instructions and Requirements:**

The Circuit Mediation Office will initiate the call to counsel and the parties.

**Two business days** before the scheduled mediation date, counsel must provide **by email** to the designated Circuit Mediator the names and telephone numbers of counsel and clients who will participate in the mediation.

**Representation by Lead Counsel:** Each party must be represented in the mediation by the lawyer or lawyers on whose judgment the party will primarily rely in making settlement decisions.

**Client Participation Required:** Clients as well as counsel are required to participate by telephone for the entirety of the mediation. In addition to counsel, the defendants shall be

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represented by a City official empowered to approve, or persuasively recommend, terms of settlement. (In the case of a corporation, association or public body, “client” means an officer or employee having the fullest possible settlement discretion.) **Counsel and clients participating in the teleconference from separate locations will be able to confer privately between themselves, and with the mediator, during the mediation.**

**Insurance Carrier Participation:** If a party is, or contends that it is, insured for any of the claims at issue, an authorized representative of the insurer must also participate.

**Rescheduling Not Permitted Without Good Cause:** The mediation is expected to take place at the scheduled date and time. It will not be rescheduled unless an indispensable participant has an immovable preexisting commitment of such importance that his or her attendance is impossible. You must notify the Mediation Office of such a conflict immediately. The mediation will not be rescheduled on short notice.

**Preparation for Mediation:** At the mediation, be prepared to discuss the case in depth – your client’s goals and interests, the pivotal legal issues, the evidence of record, and the damages or other relief being sought. In advance of the mediation, you are expected to provide your client with a copy of this notice, familiarize yourself and your client with mediation procedures, help your client realistically assess his or her interests and the prospects of the case on appeal, obtain as much settlement authority as feasible, and approach the mediation process with an open mind.

**Confidentiality:** To encourage full and frank discussion, all communications during this mediation, and all further communications, oral and written, during the course of Rule 33 proceedings, are strictly confidential. The content of Rule 33 communications may not be disclosed to anyone other than the litigants and their counsel. Nothing said by the participants, including the mediator, will be placed in the record or disclosed by this office to the Court.

**Briefing Schedule:** To enable counsel to devote their full attention to discussions of settlement, the briefing schedule will be extended. An order setting forth the new briefing schedule will be posted to the docket.

**Other Court Filing Requirements:** The scheduling of a Rule 33 mediation does not relieve the parties of their obligation to comply in a timely manner with all other court filing requirements.

**Questions and Communications regarding Mediation Notice:** Counsel may direct questions concerning this notice to Stephanie Jackson, Mediation Coordinator, at (312) 582-7384 or at [stephanie\\_jackson@ca7.uscourts.gov](mailto:stephanie_jackson@ca7.uscourts.gov).

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