

## Rule 9072-1

### Purpose and Scope

**(a) ADR Program.** Litigation in bankruptcy cases frequently imposes significant economic and other burdens on parties and often delays resolution of disputes. Alternative Dispute Resolution ("ADR") procedures have the potential to reduce delay, cost, stress and other burdens often associated with bankruptcy and bankruptcy related litigation. Mediation, in particular, allows parties more active involvement in determining the resolution of their disputes. To provide a court-annexed ADR procedure, the court adopts Local Rules 9072-1 through 9072-9 creating an ADR Program for the District of Arizona (the "ADR Program").

**(b) ADR Methods.** It is the court's intention that the ADR Program shall operate in such a way as to allow the participants to take advantage of and utilize a wide variety of ADR methods. These methods may include, but are not limited to, mediation, negotiation, early neutral evaluation, and settlement facilitation. The specific method or methods employed will be those that are appropriate and applicable as determined by the mediator and the parties, or as directed by the court and will vary from matter to matter. Nothing contained herein is intended to preclude other forms of ADR with the consent of the parties.

## Rule 9072-2

### Assignment of Matters to ADR

The court may assign a matter for inclusion in the ADR Program sua sponte, upon written stipulation of the parties to the matter, or on motion of a party to the matter or the United States Trustee. While participation by the parties in the ADR Program is generally intended to be voluntary, the court may designate specific matters for inclusion in the ADR Program, or the United States Trustee, the court may order additional parties to participate in the ADR Program if the participation of the additional parties would be necessary or helpful.

## Rule 9072-3

### Types of Matters Subject to ADR

Unless otherwise ordered by the court, all controversies arising in an adversary proceeding, contested matter, or other dispute in a case are eligible for referral to the ADR Program.