

SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION & EARLY HISTORY

The U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals' Mediation Program was established in 1981 to alleviate the court's overloaded docket and offer a faster, more flexible resolution method.

Initially, the program faced skepticism, but over time, it gained trust and became a vital part of the appellate process.

The program was inspired by successful mediation models from the Second and Seventh Circuit Courts of Appeals.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE & FUNCTION

The Mediation Program aims to facilitate settlements, reduce caseloads, and address procedural matters, helping to narrow substantive issues on appeal.

It employs experienced attorney-mediators who use an interest-based approach, focusing on underlying interests rather than positional bargaining.

Mediation is typically conducted via telephone or videoconference due to the geographical spread of the Sixth Circuit's jurisdiction.

GROWTH & SUCCESS

The program has grown significantly since 1990, serving as a model for other federal circuits.

It has been updated to incorporate new technologies and procedures, such as videoconferencing and enhanced confidentiality measures.

The program's success is measured not only by settlement rates but also by its ability to clarify issues and reduce judicial involvement.

IMPACT & NOTABLE CASES

The Mediation Program has processed over 30,000 appeals, covering a wide range of case types.

It played a crucial role in resolving significant cases, such as the Tennessee prison overcrowding dispute and the posthumous awarding of the Medal of Honor to Lt. Garlin Conner.

The program's involvement in high-profile cases demonstrates its ability to provide solutions beyond judicial relief.

FUTURE & TECHNOLOGICAL INTEGRATION

The program is exploring the integration of artificial intelligence and other technologies to enhance mediation processes.

It remains committed to adapting to changes in the mediation landscape while maintaining its core values and principles.

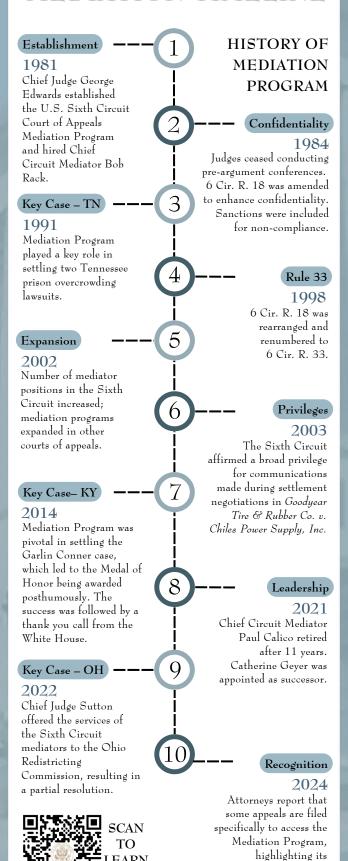
COMMITMENT

The Sixth Circuit's Mediation Program has a long-standing commitment to promoting mediation as a legitimate form of dispute resolution, evolving with experience and leveraging technology to improve its effectiveness.

EXPLORING SETTLEMENT SINCE 1987



MEDIATION



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perceived value and

effectiveness.