Excerpts – Local Rules – United States District Court, Eastern District of Missouri

Rule 6.3 (D)(1)

(D) Disqualification of Neutral.

(1) The term "conflict of interest" as used in this rule means any direct or indirect financial or personal interest in the outcome of a dispute, or any existing or prior financial, business, professional, family or social relationship with any participant in an ADR process that is likely to affect the neutral's impartiality or reasonably create an appearance of partiality or bias.

Rule 6.04(A)

(A) Confidentiality.

Alternative dispute resolution proceedings are private and confidential. A neutral may exclude all persons other than the named parties and their counsel from ADR conferences. Other individuals may participate with the consent of the neutral, provided they agree to the rules pertaining to confidentiality. All written and oral communications made or disclosed to the neutral are confidential and may not be disclosed by the neutral, any party, or other participant, unless the parties otherwise agree in writing. Documents created by the parties for use by the neutral will not be filed with the Court. The neutral must not testify regarding matters disclosed during ADR proceedings. This rule does not prohibit or limit the enforcement of agreements or the collection of non-identifying information for Court-approved research and evaluation purposes, or the filing of the ADR compliance report.

Rule 6.05(A)

Reporting Requirements.

(A) Failure to Participate in ADR Process in Good Faith. The neutral must report to the judge any willful or negligent failure to attend any ADR conference, to substantially comply with the Order Referring Case to Alternative Dispute Resolution, or otherwise participate in the ADR process in good faith. The judge may impose any sanctions deemed appropriate as a result of this failure.