

## **Mediation and Judicial Settlement Conferences**

**Mediation** Pursuant to Local Rule CR 39.1 most civil cases are referred for mediation. Under this rule the assigned judge decides whether to designate a case for mediation.

Where the parties have consented to proceed before Magistrate Judge Tsuchida, Judge Tsuchida will enter an order indicating whether he has designated the case for CR 39.1 mediation.

**Judicial Settlement Conferences** The Court may appoint a District or Magistrate Judge to conduct a judicial settlement conference. Generally, a settlement judge will not be appointed unless the parties have already participated in mediation. In cases referred to Magistrate Judge Tsuchida for settlement, Judge Tsuchida's Courtroom Deputy Clerk will contact the parties to schedule the conference. The Court will thereafter enter an order regarding who is required to attend, and the submission of confidential settlement memos.