



J. CARLISLE OVERSTREET
JUDGE SUPERIOR COURT
AUGUSTA JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

320 CITY-COUNTY BUILDING
AUGUSTA, GEORGIA 30901

AREA CODE 706
821-2444

MEMORANDUM

TO: CIVIL ATTORNEYS
DATE: February 26, 2010
FROM: J. Carlisle Overstreet
RE: Civil Cases

The Superior Court Judges of the Augusta Circuit are planning a concerted effort to address open civil cases that are three years old or older, for Burke, Columbia and Richmond Counties. In March we will begin to place the twenty five (25) oldest cases on a calendar during our criminal weeks in each county. The attorneys in each case will be notified of the dates and the cases on the calendar calls. Attendance is mandatory unless the case is closed 7 days prior to the calendar call. Each attorney will be asked to sign in at the calendar calls and list their email address.

Prior to the calendar calls, attorneys should review their pending civil cases to ascertain which ones can be dismissed/settled/closed. We are asking for your assistance in voluntarily closing these older cases. Those cases that are still pending as of the date of the calendar call will be ordered to mediation, with mediation to be completed within 90 days.

If the case is ordered to mediation, you may choose to use the Augusta Circuit ADR Program or a private mediator. If a private mediator is utilized, it is necessary that you notify the ADR office in writing (letter/email/fax) of the date and time of the mediation and the name of the mediator. Within 10 days of the completed mediation, written notification will be provided to the ADR office of the outcome (settlement/partial settlement/no agreement). Any cases not concluded by one of the above methods will be set for trial.