LCR 16C.
SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE

(a) When Held. Subject to available time on the court's calendar, a settlement conference may be held in any civil or domestic case by agreement of the parties, or, in the absence of agreement, upon order of the court

(b) Time and Judicial Officer. A settlement conference will be held at a time set by the court administrator, and shall be conducted by a judicial officer other than the officer to whom the case is, or likely will be, assigned for trial.

(c) Persons Attending. The attorney in charge of each party's case shall attend the settlement conference. The parties to a domestic case shall attend the conference; in other civil cases, the parties, or persons with settlement authority for a party, shall be available, and the judicial officer conducting the conference shall decide whether the parties shall be present in the conference room. When the defense of a party is provided by an insurer, a representative of the insurer with authority to bind the insurer to a settlement, must be in attendance or immediately available by telephone to the attorney for that party. Attendance of any party or representative may be excused for good cause shown.

(d) Preconference Submittal. At least two days before the date set for the settlement conference, the attorney, or pro se party, personally in charge of each party's case shall present to the judicial officer conducting the conference a letter succinctly addressing those issues required to be addressed.

(e) Privilege. Settlement conferences shall, in all respects, be privileged proceedings and not reported or recorded. No party is bound by any position taken during a settlement conference unless a settlement is reached. When a settlement has been reached, the judicial officer may, and at the request of any party shall, cause the settlement to be made a matter of record. The judicial officer presiding over the settlement conference shall be disqualified from acting as the trial judge in that matter, unless all parties otherwise agree in writing.

[Adopted as LR 17 September 1, 2005; amended and re-numbered effective September 1, 2012]