

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

In the matter of)	
)	
ARBITRATION AND MEDIATION)	
RULES)	GENERAL ORDER NO. 387-A
_____)	

GOOD CAUSE APPEARING, the Arbitration and Mediation Rules are amended to add the following section:

Rule 600-8
MEDIATION PROCEDURE

(c) Confidentiality. This court, the mediator, all counsel and parties, and any other persons participating in the mediation process shall treat as confidential all written and oral communications made in connection with or during any mediation session. The court hereby extends to all such communications all the protection afforded by Federal Rule of Evidence 408 and by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 68. In addition, unless otherwise stipulated by all parties and the mediator, the court hereby prohibits disclosure of any written or oral communication made by any party, counsel, mediator or other participant in connection with or during any mediation to anyone not involved in the litigation. Nor may such communication, absent stipulation by all parties and the mediator, be disclosed to the assigned trial judge or used for any purpose, including impeachment, in any pleading or future proceeding in court.

DATED: 1/3/00
FILED: 1/5/00