456B 11040

#### **CAUSE NO. DC-13-09969**

JO HOPPER vs. LAURA WASSMER, et al § IN THE DISTRICT COURT § OF DALLAS COUNTY TEXAS § 44<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT COURT

# 44<sup>th</sup> STATE CIVIL DISTRICT COURT'S MEDIATION ORDER

## 1. APPOINTMENT OF MEDIATOR, OBJECTIONS AND SUBSTITUTIONS

The Court finds this case is appropriate for mediation pursuant to Section 154.001 et seq. of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code and Orders mediation pursuant to this Order. The mediator may be selected by agreement of all parties; if one cannot be agreed upon within fourteen (14) days of the date this Order was signed **PAUL SALZBURGER** at **214-528-1411** is hereby appointed mediator. **The parties must advise both the Court and the aforementioned mediator** in writing of any agreed mediator by substitution within fourteen (14) days of the date this Order is signed. Any mediator substitution requested beyond such time may be made only under extraordinary circumstances by motion and submitted to the Court based on good cause. In the case of an objection to mediation, a hearing before the Court must be requested simultaneously with the filing and service of the same upon each other party's attorney of record of the objection or the objection may be waived.

## 2. NON-BINDING, CONFIDENTIAL AND PRIVELEGED

Mediation is a mandatory but non-binding settlement conference, conducted with the assistance of the mediator. Mediation is private, confidential and privileged from process and discovery. After mediation, the Court will be advised by the mediator, parties and counsel only whether the parties complied with this Order and whether the case settled. Unless otherwise required by law, the mediator shall not be a witness nor may the mediator's records be subpoenaed or used as evidence, nor shall any person, whether party, agent, representative, or witness, shall be subject to examination with respect to statements or responses thereto that occurred during the mediation process. No subpoenas, citations, writs, or other process shall be served at or near the location of any mediation session, upon any person entering, leaving or attending any mediation session.

## 3. REPORTING NON-COMPLIANCE

To the extent any party fails to comply with this order, the mediator will report to this court why the mediation has not been scheduled or conducted as Ordered; however, the mediator shall not disclose any information prohibited from disclosure by Section 154.053 of the Texas Civil Practice and Remedies Code.

#### 4. REASONABLE MEDIATION FEE

The mediator will negotiate a reasonable fee with the parties which shall be divided and borne equally by the parties, unless agreed otherwise, and paid by the parties directly to the mediator before mediation commences and shall be taxed as costs. If the parties do not agree upon the fee requested by the mediator, the court will set a reasonable fee, which shall be taxed as costs.

# 5. RULES FOR MEDIATION INCORPORATED HEREIN

Each party and their counsel will be bound by the rules for mediation printed on the reverse hereof, and/or attached hereto and incorporated herein as if fully set forth, and shall complete the information forms as are furnished by the mediator.

## 6. PEOPLE WHO MUST BE PRESENT AT MEDIATION

The named Parties themselves shall be present during the entire mediation process, in addition to any other agent or representative. If a party is not a natural person such entity must be represented by an authorized director, officer or employee of the organization, in addition to any other agent, representative or

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