

For Immediate Release
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PRESS RELEASE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
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St. Paul, MN 55101
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Federal Court Announces a New Litigation Alternative - Expedited Trials Program

ST. PAUL, MN (June 25, 2001) -- Chief United States District Judge Paul A. Magnuson announces the implementation of a new federal court program, Expedited Trials, commencing July 2, 2001.

This new voluntary program is a litigation alternative to traditional case processing developed to assist in resolving civil disputes in a just, timely and cost-effective manner. Chief Judge Magnuson notes, "The intent of the program is to assure a prompt trial followed by a prompt decision." Chief Judge Magnuson further states, "...parties who agree to participate in the "Expedited Trials" program can expect that their case will be called for trial no later than six months after the date of the Pretrial Conference. If the parties consent to trial before a Magistrate Judge, trial shall be held on a day certain within 120 days of the Pretrial Conference."

All parties and their attorneys are encouraged to elect to use this new program for their civil cases. Additional information regarding Expedited Trials is available in the Office of the Clerk of Court in either Minneapolis, St. Paul or Duluth or by visiting the Court's web site at www.mnd.uscourts.gov.