

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CHEROKEE COUNTY
IN THE STATE COURT OF CHEROKEE COUNTY
IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CHEROKEE COUNTY
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CHEROKEE COUNTY
IN THE MAGISTRATE COURT OF CHEROKEE COUNTY
STATE OF GEORGIA**

**In Re: Establishment of Alternative Dispute
Resolution Program for the Blue Ridge
Judicial Circuit**

**ORDER ESTABLISHING BLUE RIDGE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROGRAM**

Pursuant to the provisions of the Georgia Court-Connected Dispute Resolution Programs Act (O.C.G.A. § 15-23-1 et. seq.) and previous orders of the court, the Chief Judges of the Courts of Cherokee County have previously determined the need exists for alternative dispute resolution (ADR) programs in one or more of the courts. Such need still exists.

The Board of Trustees as established in O.C.G.A. § 15-23-3 met on September 13, 2023, and voted to create a Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit Alternative Dispute Resolution Program. The Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution approved the rule of said program on February 26, 2024.¹

Therefore, in order to fund said program, and after first advising and notifying the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners, as required by O.C.G.A. § 15-23-7, it is hereby ORDERED:

1. Any funds collected by the Clerk of the Superior, State, Probate and Magistrate Courts of Cherokee County on or before February 29, 2024, pursuant to that Order dated July 22, 2014, and filed in Superior Court Minute Book 198, Page 546, shall be remitted to the Office of Dispute Resolution for the Ninth Judicial Administrative District. On or after March 1, 2024, all such funds collected shall be remitted to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of Trustees for the Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit ADR Program, as set forth herein.

2. The fee for providing Court-connected ADR programs in civil cases shall be \$10.00, in addition to all other legal costs.

3. The sum of \$10.00 shall be charged and collected in each civil action or case filed in the Superior, State, Probate and Magistrate Courts of Cherokee County by the Clerk of said courts.

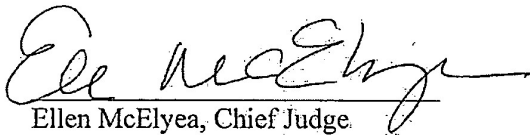
¹ The Rules of the Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit ADR Program will be published by separate Order.

Patty Baker, Clerk of Superior Court - Cherokee County, GA

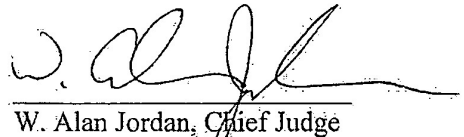
4. The Clerk of the Superior, State, Probate and Magistrate Courts shall collect such fee in any civil matter docketed upon the official dockets of the enumerated courts and to which a case number is assigned, whether such matter is contested or not.

4. Beginning with fund collected on or after March 1, 2024, the Clerk of the Superior, State, Probate and Magistrate Courts shall remit monthly, on or before the tenth day of the following month, the fees so collected to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of Trustees for the Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit ADR Program.

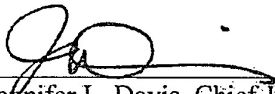
SO ORDERED, this 19 day of March, 2024.



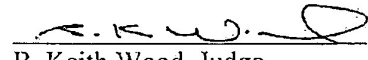
Ellen McElyea, Chief Judge
Superior Court of Cherokee County
Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit



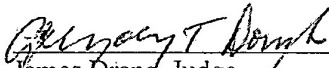
W. Alan Jordan, Chief Judge
State Court of Cherokee County
Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit



Jennifer L. Davis, Chief Judge
Juvenile Court of Cherokee County
Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit



B. Keith Wood, Judge
Probate Court of Cherokee County
Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit

for 
James Drane, Judge *by designation*
Magistrate Court of Cherokee County
Blue Ridge Judicial Circuit