

**ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER OF THE
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE JUDGE OF THE COURTS**

Pursuant to the authority vested in me, and with the advice and consent of the Administrative Board of the Courts, I hereby amend section 202.12-a(c)(2) of the Uniform Civil Rules of the Supreme and County Courts, relating to settlement conferences, to read as follows, effective December 1, 2014:

* * *

(c) Settlement conference.

* * *

(2) The conference shall include settlement discussions pertaining to the relative rights and obligations of the parties under the mortgage loan documents, including determining whether the parties can reach a mutually agreeable resolution to help the defendant avoid losing his or her home, and evaluating the potential for a resolution in which payment schedules or amounts may be modified or other workout options may be agreed to, including but not limited to loan modifications, "short sales" and "deeds in lieu of foreclosure" or any other loss mitigation options. The court may also use the conference for whatever other purposes the court deems appropriate. Where appropriate, the court may permit a representative of the plaintiff to attend the conference telephonically or by video-conference. Any representative participating in the conference, whether in person, telephonically or by video conference, shall be fully authorized to dispose of the case, as required by CPLR 3408(c).

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Chief Administrative Judge of the Courts

Dated: November 5, 2014

AO/196/14