



**North Carolina Industrial Commission | Mediation Section
Timeline for Completion of Mandatory Mediated Settlement Conferences**

Deputy Commissioner John Schafer

Old Timeframe: 6 Months

New Timeframe: 5 Months

ICMSC Rule 2(a) provides that “[t]he scheduled date of the mediation conference shall be within 120 days of the mediation order.” Rule 3(c) further provides that “[a] party, or the mediator, may request that the Commission extend the deadline for completion of the conference.” The current practice in cases with a pending request for hearing is that they sometimes are not coded for hearing for up to six months after the mediation order when the parties or a mediator have requested an extension of the deadline for the completion of the mediation conference. However, in order to expedite the mediation process all cases with pending requests for hearing filed on or after July 1, 2014 will be coded for hearing no later than five(5) months after the mediation order regardless of whether or not the mediation conference has been scheduled and completed.