

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTERS

SUMMARY OF REPORTED ACTIVITY FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1996

The Alternative Dispute Resolution Centers of Texas were reauthorized and expanded in scope in 1987 by the 70th Legislature "to encourage the peaceable resolution of disputes, with special consideration given to disputes involving the parent-child relationship, . . . and the early settlement of pending litigation through voluntary settlement procedures." (Acts 1987, 70th Legislature, Chapter 1121, Section 1.) Alternative Dispute Resolution Centers provide an opportunity to resolve conflicts creatively and effectively outside the courtroom using a variety of mechanisms including mediation, arbitration, negotiation, and moderated settlement conferences.

Thirteen centers submitted reports for the period September 1, 1995, through August 31, 1996. Of the activity reported, 27,756 cases were received during the reporting period, 26,607 were closed, and 3,549 cases were pending at the end of the reporting period.

This summary is based on reports from alternative dispute resolution centers. It does not include information from judges and court clerks, nor from numerous private groups and other organizations which actively employ alternative dispute resolution procedures which are not reported.

MEDIATION SECTION						
CENTERS	CATEGORIES OF DISPUTE					Total
	Neighbors, Friends, & Relatives	Employer- Employee	Landlord- Tenant	Business Consumer- Merchant	Other	
AMARILLO - DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER						
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	11	0	0	17	12	40
Cases Received During Year	360	12	71	396	57	896
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	229	11	64	105	39	448
Cases in Which Hearing Held	118	0	6	43	15	182
Cases Unresolved but Closed	9	1	1	252	3	266
Total Cases Closed During Year	356	12	71	400	57	896
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	15	0	0	13	12	40
AUSTIN - DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER OF TRAVIS COUNTY						
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	--	--	--	--	--	71
Cases Received During Year	--	--	--	--	--	1,680
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	--	--	--	--	--	95
Cases in Which Hearing Held	--	--	--	--	--	1,010
Cases Unresolved but Closed	--	--	--	--	--	463
Total Cases Closed During Year	--	--	--	--	--	1,568
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	--	--	--	--	--	183
BEAUMONT - MEDIATION CENTER OF JEFFERSON COUNTY, INC.						
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	2	0	1	6	5	14
Cases Received During Year	445	54	159	585	622	1,865
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	372	39	136	452	330	1,329
Cases in Which Hearing Held	44	8	15	75	250	392
Cases Unresolved but Closed	29	6	7	50	42	134
Total Cases Closed During Year	445	53	158	577	622	1,855
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	2	1	2	14	5	24
CONROE - DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, INC.						
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	2	0	4	0	1	7
Cases Received During Year	14	0	5	51	234	304
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	1	0	0	1	7	9
Cases in Which Hearing Held	7	0	3	24	160	194
Cases Unresolved but Closed	8	0	6	13	68	95
Total Cases Closed During Year	16	0	9	38	235	298
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	0	0	0	13	0	13

¹Case dispositions were not reported by category.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTERS

SUMMARY OF REPORTED ACTIVITY FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1996

MEDIATION SECTION (CONT.)						
CENTERS	CATEGORIES OF DISPUTE					Total
	Neighbors, Friends, & Relatives	Employer- Employee	Landlord- Tenant	Business Consumer- Merchant	Other	
CORPUS CHRISTI - NUECES COUNTY DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER						
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	4	2	10	7	81	104
Cases Received During Year	289	42	67	366	688	1,452
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	31	7	4	50	16	108
Cases in Which Hearing Held	107	14	22	94	381	618
Cases Unresolved but Closed	142	22	50	214	170	598
Total Cases Closed During Year	280	43	76	358	567	1,324
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	13	1	1	15	202	232
DALLAS - DISPUTE MEDIATION SERVICE, INC.						
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	--	--	--	--	--	706
Cases Received During Year	--	--	--	--	--	1,577
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	--	--	--	--	--	146
Cases in Which Hearing Held	--	--	--	--	--	1007
Cases Unresolved but Closed	--	--	--	--	--	380
Total Cases Closed During Year	--	--	--	--	--	1,533
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	--	--	--	--	--	750
EL PASO - EL PASO COUNTY DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER						
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	20	0	7	2	59	88
Cases Received During Year	279	90	97	260	366	1,092
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	7	2	2	12	16	39
Cases in Which Hearing Held	29	39	9	60	244	381
Cases Unresolved but Closed	202	22	84	133	86	527
Total Cases Closed During Year	238	63	95	205	346	947
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	61	27	9	57	79	233
FORT WORTH - DISPUTE RESOLUTION SERVICES OF TARRANT COUNTY, INC.						
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	148	5	2	213	158	526
Cases Received During Year	1,033	134	307	1,083	629	3,186
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	509	114	293	483	309	1,708
Cases in Which Hearing Held	423	4	0	355	287	1,069
Cases Unresolved but Closed	112	20	12	203	125	472
Total Cases Closed During Year	1,044	138	305	1,041	721	3,249
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	137	1	4	255	66	463
HOUSTON - DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER						
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	259	18	11	82	150	520
Cases Received During Year	2,100	116	223	1,082	1,141	4,662
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	315	29	61	198	239	842
Cases in Which Hearing Held	1,042	49	99	498	305	1,993
Cases Unresolved but Closed	630	33	53	315	53	1,084
Total Cases Closed During Year	1,987	111	213	1,011	597	3,919
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	372	23	21	153	694	1,263
LEWISVILLE - CENTER FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION OF DENTON CO., INC.						
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	--	--	--	--	--	0
Cases Received During Year	--	--	--	--	--	1,838
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	--	--	--	--	--	1,244
Cases in Which Hearing Held	--	--	--	--	--	440
Cases Unresolved but Closed	--	--	--	--	--	104
Total Cases Closed During Year	--	--	--	--	--	1,788
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	--	--	--	--	--	50

¹Case dispositions were not reported by category.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTERS

SUMMARY OF REPORTED ACTIVITY FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1996

MEDIATION SECTION (CONT.)								
CENTERS	CATEGORIES OF DISPUTE						Total	
	Neighbors, Friends, & Relatives	Employer- Employee	Landlord- Tenant	Business Consumer- Merchant	Other			
LUBBOCK - SOUTH PLAINS DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER								
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	35	1	2	2	1		41	
Cases Received During Year	1,064	22	206	370	67		1,729	
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	238	1	4	101	0		344	
Cases in Which Hearing Held	505	8	21	155	24		713	
Cases Unresolved but Closed	300	0	181	102	44		627	
Total Cases Closed During Year	1,043	9	206	358	68		1,684	
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	56	14	2	14	0		86	
PLANO - CENTER FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION OF COLLIN COUNTY								
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	--	--	--	--	--		0	
Cases Received During Year	--	--	--	--	--		1,004	
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	--	--	--	--	--		682	
Cases in Which Hearing Held	--	--	--	--	--		187	
Cases Unresolved but Closed	--	--	--	--	--		108	
Total Cases Closed During Year	--	--	--	--	--		977	
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	--	--	--	--	--		27	
SAN ANTONIO - BEXAR COUNTY DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER								
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	48	3	4	17	0		72	
Cases Received During Year	3,865	328	719	1,129	0		6,041	
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	3,169	292	668	917	0		5,046	
Cases in Which Hearing Held	461	10	17	85	0		573	
Cases Unresolved but Closed	244	25	32	120	0		421	
Total Cases Closed During Year	3,874	327	717	1,122	0		6,040	
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	39	4	6	24	0		73	
MEDIATION SECTION TOTALS								
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	--	--	--	--	--		2,182	
Cases Received During Year	--	--	--	--	--		27,326	
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	--	--	--	--	--		12,040	
Cases in Which Hearing Held	--	--	--	--	--		8,759	
Cases Unresolved but Closed	--	--	--	--	--		5,279	
Total Cases Closed During Year	--	--	--	--	--		26,078	
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	--	--	--	--	--		3,437	
MODERATED SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE SECTION								
CENTERS	CATEGORIES OF DISPUTES							Total
	Injury or Damage Involving Motor Vehicle	Injury or Damage Other Than Motor Vehicle	Workers' Compensation	Tax Cases	Condemnation	Accounts, Contracts, Notes	Other Civil Cases	
AMARILLO - DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER								
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cases Received During Year	1	2	0	0	0	0	3	
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Cases in Which Hearing Held	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	
Cases Unresolved by Closed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Total Cases Closed During Year	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	

¹Case dispositions were not reported by category.

*Total by category cannot be indicated because case dispositions by category were not reported by Austin, Dallas, Lewisville, and Plano.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTERS

SUMMARY OF REPORTED ACTIVITY FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1996

MODERATED SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE SECTION (CONT.)								
CENTERS	CATEGORIES OF DISPUTES							Total
	Injury or Damage Involving Motor Vehicle	Injury or Damage Other Than Motor Vehicle	Workers' Compensation	Tax Cases	Condemnation	Accounts, Contracts, Notes	Other Civil Cases	
AUSTIN - DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER OF TRAVIS COUNTY								
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0
Cases Received During Year	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	10
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0
Cases in Which Hearing Held	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	10
Cases Unresolved but Closed	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0
Total Cases Closed During Year	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	10
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0
EL PASO - EL PASO COUNTY DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER								
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	31	88	1	0	0	0	70	190
Cases Received During Year	134	73	39	1	0	0	53	300
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	19	8	3	0	0	0	5	35
Cases in Which Hearing Held	84	59	26	0	0	0	28	197
Cases Unresolved but Closed	41	64	9	0	0	0	66	180
Total Cases Closed During Year	144	131	38	0	0	0	99	412
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	21	30	2	1	0	0	24	78
HOUSTON - DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER								
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	12	1	0	1	2	0	0	16
Cases Received During Year	44	3	0	4	0	0	0	51
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cases in Which Hearing Held	31	3	0	5	0	0	0	39
Cases Unresolved but Closed	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Total Cases Closed During Year	36	3	0	5	0	0	0	44
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	20	1	0	0	2	0	0	23
LUBBOCK - SOUTH PLAINS DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER								
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cases Received During Year	18	5	1	2	0	3	16	45
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	3	0	0	1	0	0	4	8
Cases in Which Hearing Held	14	5	1	1	0	2	6	29
Cases Unresolved but Closed	1	0	0	0	0	0	5	6
Total Cases Closed During Year	18	5	1	2	0	2	15	43
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
MODERATED SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE SECTION TOTALS								
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	206
Cases Received During Year	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	406
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	44
Cases in Which Hearing Held	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	275
Cases Unresolved but Closed	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	190
Total Cases Closed During Year	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	509
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	103

*Case dispositions were not reported by category.

*Total by category cannot be indicated because case dispositions by category were not reported by Austin.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTERS

SUMMARY OF REPORTED ACTIVITY FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1996

COURT-ANNEXED ARBITRATION SECTION

CENTERS	CATEGORIES OF DISPUTES							Total
	Injury or Damage Involving Motor Vehicle	Injury or Damage Other Than Motor Vehicle	Workers' Compensation, Tax or Condemnation	Deceptive Trade Practices Act	Divorce	Accounts, Contracts, Notes	Other Civil Cases	
HOUSTON - DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER								
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	5
Cases Received During Year	15	0	1	3	1	0	0	20
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Cases in Which Hearing Held	12	0	1	2	0	0	0	15
Cases Unresolved but Closed	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total Cases Closed During Year	14	0	1	3	0	0	0	18
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	2	0	0	0	5	0	0	7
LUBBOCK - SOUTH PLAINS DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER								
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cases Received During Year	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	4
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cases in Which Hearing Held	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Cases Unresolved but Closed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Cases Closed During Year	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
COURT-ANNEXED ARBITRATION SECTION TOTALS								
Cases Pending September 1, 1995	1	0	0	0	4	0	0	5
Cases Received During Year	15	1	1	3	1	0	3	24
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Cases in Which Hearing Held	12	0	1	2	0	0	2	17
Cases Unresolved but Closed	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total Cases Closed During Year	14	0	1	3	0	0	2	20
Cases Pending August 31, 1996	2	1	0	0	5	0	1	9