

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTERS

SUMMARY OF REPORTED ACTIVITY FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1999

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.

Eleven centers submitted reports for the period September 1, 1998, through August 31, 1999. Of the activity reported, 22,099 cases were received during the reporting period, 20,954 were closed, and 2,751 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					
	Neighbors, Friends, & Relatives	Employer- Employee	Landlord- Tenant	Business Consumer- Merchant	Other	Total
AMARILLO - DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER						
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	13	0	0	2	7	22
Cases Received During Year	252	4	116	146	115	633
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	107	4	115	59	95	380
Cases in Which Hearing Held	125	0	1	20	16	162
Cases Unresolved but Closed	10	0	0	67	2	79
Total Cases Closed During Year	242	4	116	146	113	621
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	23	0	0	2	9	34
BEAUMONT - DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER OF JEFFERSON COUNTY						
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	10	0	0	12	9	31
Cases Received During Year	357	77	163	672	764	2,033
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	271	66	129	493	381	1,340
Cases in Which Hearing Held	44	4	9	95	317	469
Cases Unresolved but Closed	41	5	22	71	66	205
Total Cases Closed During Year	356	75	160	659	764	2,014
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	11	2	3	25	9	50
CONROE - DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY						
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cases Received During Year	330	1	1	92	21	445
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	40	0	0	12	2	54
Cases in Which Hearing Held	236	0	0	47	11	294
Cases Unresolved but Closed	54	0	0	25	3	82
Total Cases Closed During Year	330	0	0	84	16	430
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	0	1	1	8	5	15
CORPUS CHRISTI - NUECES COUNTY DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER						
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	3	5	5	0	217	230
Cases Received During Year	335	21	51	277	571	1,255
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	14	1	2	41	31	89
Cases in Which Hearing Held	110	9	11	90	428	648
Cases Unresolved but Closed	138	11	30	144	329	652
Total Cases Closed During Year	277	22	43	275	788	1,389
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	61	4	13	2	0	96

SUMMARY OF REPORTED ACTIVITY FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1999

MEDIATION SECTION (CONT.)

CATEGORIES OF DISPUTE

CENTERS	CATEGORIES OF DISPUTE					Total
	Neighbors, Friends, & Relatives	Employer- Employee	Landlord- Tenant	Business Consumer- Merchant	Other	
DALLAS - DISPUTE MEDIATION SERVICE, INC.						
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	--	--	--	--	--	644
Cases Received During Year	--	--	--	--	--	2,447
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	--	--	--	--	--	1,144
Cases in Which Hearing Held	--	--	--	--	--	822
Cases Unresolved but Closed	--	--	--	--	--	411
Total Cases Closed During Year	--	--	--	--	--	2,377
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	--	--	--	--	--	714
EL PASO - EL PASO COUNTY DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER						
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	14	0	0	10	42	66
Cases Received During Year	359	32	168	377	254	1,190
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	89	1	39	84	28	241
Cases in Which Hearing Held	111	9	25	84	120	349
Cases Unresolved but Closed	173	15	99	216	101	604
Total Cases Closed During Year	373	25	163	384	249	1,194
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	0	7	5	3	47	62
FORT WORTH - DISPUTE RESOLUTION SERVICES OF TARRANT COUNTY, INC.						
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	25	14	35	31	0	105
Cases Received During Year	883	65	142	379	1,184	2,653
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	423	71	156	200	248	1,098
Cases in Which Hearing Held	384	5	0	123	693	1,205
Cases Unresolved but Closed	75	1	2	76	214	368
Total Cases Closed During Year	882	77	158	399	1,155	2,671
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	26	2	19	11	29	87
HOUSTON - DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER						
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	86	3	6	36	130	261
Cases Received During Year	1,439	73	159	683	1,295	3,649
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	91	8	18	49	131	297
Cases in Which Hearing Held	1,017	30	81	405	462	1,995
Cases Unresolved but Closed	304	26	53	196	130	709
Total Cases Closed During Year	1,412	64	152	650	723	3,001
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	113	12	13	69	702	909
LUBBOCK - SOUTH PLAINS DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER						
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	42	1	0	7	1	51
Cases Received During Year	1,674	33	294	681	32	2,714
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	481	3	9	150	3	646
Cases in Which Hearing Held	578	18	25	143	4	768
Cases Unresolved but Closed	312	13	259	256	24	864
Total Cases Closed During Year	1,371	34	293	549	31	2,278
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	345	0	1	139	2	487
SAN ANTONIO - BEKAR COUNTY DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER						
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	--	--	--	--	--	167
Cases Received During Year	--	--	--	--	--	4,972
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	--	--	--	--	--	3,896
Cases in Which Hearing Held	--	--	--	--	--	517
Cases Unresolved but Closed	--	--	--	--	--	443
Total Cases Closed During Year	--	--	--	--	--	4,856
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	--	--	--	--	--	283

¹Case dispositions were not reported by category.

SUMMARY OF REPORTED ACTIVITY FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1999

MODERATED SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE SECTION

CENTERS	CATEGORIES OF DISPUTE					Total
	Neighbors, Friends, & Relatives	Employer-Employee	Landlord-Tenant	Business Consumer-Merchant	Other	
WACO - McLENNAN COUNTY DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER						
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	--	--	--	--	--	2
Cases Received During Year	--	--	--	--	--	67
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	--	--	--	--	--	1
Cases in Which Hearing Held	--	--	--	--	--	49
Cases Unresolved but Closed	--	--	--	--	--	16
Total Cases Closed During Year	--	--	--	--	--	66
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	--	--	--	--	--	3
MEDIATION SECTION TOTALS						
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	--	--	--	--	--	1,579
Cases Received During Year	--	--	--	--	--	22,058
Cases Closed During Year						
Resolved Prior to Hearing	--	--	--	--	--	9,186
Cases in Which Hearing Held	--	--	--	--	--	7,278
Cases Unresolved but Closed	--	--	--	--	--	4,433
Total Cases Closed During Year	--	--	--	--	--	20,897
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	--	--	--	--	--	2,740

CENTERS	CATEGORIES OF DISPUTE							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	
CORPUS CHRISTI - NUECES COUNTY DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER								
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cases Received During Year	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cases in Which Hearing Held	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Cases Unresolved but Closed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Cases Closed During Year	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
EL PASO - EL PASO COUNTY DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER								
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	9	0	2	0	0	0	6	17
Cases Received During Year	3	1	1	0	0	0	3	8
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	8	1	3	0	0	0	8	20
Cases in Which Hearing Held	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Cases Unresolved but Closed	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total Cases Closed During Year	11	1	3	0	0	0	9	24
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
HOUSTON - DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER								
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Cases Received During Year	4	4	0	1	1	0	0	10
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cases in Which Hearing Held	4	4	0	1	1	0	0	10
Cases Unresolved but Closed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Cases Closed During Year	4	4	0	1	1	0	0	10
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	8

¹Case dispositions were not reported by category.

²Total by category cannot be indicated because case dispositions by category were not reported by Dallas, and San Antonio.

SUMMARY OF REPORTED ACTIVITY FOR YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 1999

COURT-ANNEXED ARBITRATION SECTION

CENTERS	CATEGORIES OF DISPUTE							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	
LUBBOCK - SOUTH PLAINS DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER								
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cases Received During Year	1	8	0	0	0	0	3	12
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Cases in Which Hearing Held	1	6	0	0	0	0	2	9
Cases Unresolved but Closed	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total Cases Closed During Year	1	8	0	0	0	0	3	12
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MODERATED SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE SECTION TOTALS								
Cases Pending September 1, 1998	17	0	2	0	0	0	6	25
Cases Received During Year	8	16	1	1	1	0	6	33
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	8	2	3	0	0	0	9	22
Cases in Which Hearing Held	7	13	0	1	1	0	3	25
Cases Unresolved but Closed	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total Cases Closed During Year	16	16	3	1	1	0	12	49
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	9

CATEGORIES OF DISPUTES

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, 1998	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Cases Received During Year	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Cases Closed During Year								
Resolved Prior to Hearing	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cases in Which Hearing Held	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Cases Unresolved but Closed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Cases Closed During Year	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Cases Pending August 31, 1999	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2