

**CIVIL COURT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

**CHIEF CLERK’S MEMORANDUM**

Subject: VLFD Program for Consumer Credit  
Actions

Class: CCM-187  
Category: GP-30 & 60  
Eff. Date: November 10, 2009

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**BACKGROUND**

The NYS Courts Access to Justice Program is providing pro bono legal assistance for the Civil Court’s self represented litigants through the Volunteer Lawyer for the Day (VLFD) program for Consumer Debtors. This program is designed to offer limited scope representation for one day to self represented defendants in consumer credit actions. DRP -161 provides designations for our parts and mandates that actions that have attorneys on all sides are to be calendared to designated parts (Parts 15, 30 and 32) and actions that have any party self represented are calendared to differently designated parts (Parts 11, 34 and 35). In implementing this program questions arose as to whether we would transfer those actions where the self represented defendant would be represented for the day to the Attorney Both Sides Part. Transferring these actions would be time consuming, confusing and delay access to the court. As representation is of limited scope and for one day only, the action would have to be transferred back to the self represented parts causing even more delay. In order to create a consistent citywide procedure we are instituting the following directive effective immediately.

**DIRECTIVE**

Any case calendared to the Self Represented Parts where the defendant is represented by a Volunteer Lawyer for a Day shall remain in that part and shall not be transferred based on the assignment of the volunteer lawyer.

Dated: 11/11/09

/s/

/s/

Fern A. Fisher  
Deputy Chief Administrative Judge  
New York Courts

Jack Baer  
Chief Clerk