

**Kristine:**

**Thank you for the “reminder”. I would like to comment on one item that directly relates to “transparency”.**

**As of April 13, 2009, both parties must submit a joint request for an “explained decision”. I would like to propose a significant change so that an “explained decision” is the default option.**

**If both parties do not want an “explained decision” they would have to submit a joint request not to require an explained decision at least 20 days prior to the first scheduled hearing date.**

**I would also suggest that an additional fee of \$500 be assessed on each party if they do not waive the explained decision. This fee would be paid to the Chair who would have the responsibility for writing the opinion. As allowed today, the parties may limit the matters that are included in the explained opinion.**

**Bob Muh**