

W·I·D·R

WOMEN IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Member Directory of ADR Practitioners

WOMEN IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

January 2020

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WITH DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS**

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AMERICAN **BAR** ASSOCIATION
Dispute Resolution Section



Welcome to the 2020 version of the Directory of ADR Practitioners of Women in Dispute Resolution, a committee of the American Bar Association's Section of Dispute Resolution. We are pleased to present information provided by our members to aid the users of alternative dispute resolution services in finding qualified, diverse neutrals. This Directory is one concrete action toward achieving the goals of the ABA's House of Delegates [Resolution 105](#) (adopted 2018) encouraging the selection and use of diverse neutrals.

Here are some tips for using the Directory:

- WIDR relies upon regional chairs in many cities and states in which ADR services are commonly used. We have included a current list of regional chairs, by state. These members may be able to assist you in finding a mediator or arbitrator in a particular jurisdiction.
- Clicking on a name in the table of contents will take you directly to that member's information.
- To search the PDF document, click CTRL + F on your keyboard. A search box will pop up where you can type in any key word. Click "next" to search for the word.
- Use varied and different terms describing the subject matter expertise for which you are searching.
- The Directory is built from ABA profile information, which uses state abbreviations that appear frequently in many common words, which makes searching by state name or abbreviation less useful. Moreover, many of our neutrals have a regional, national or international practice. For this reason, we have not included a listing by state. Searching by city should be functional.

We encourage you to share this Directory with your colleagues as a means of identifying prospective neutrals with diverse backgrounds. Keep in mind that WIDR compiles information provided by its members, and users of the directory have full responsibility for vetting any members for suitability in general and for a particular matter.

We welcome others' involvement with the objective of increasing diversity in ADR, involvement with WIDR, and feedback for future versions of the Directory.

WIDR Leadership 2019-2020

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AMERICAN **BAR** ASSOCIATION

Dispute Resolution Section

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Maxine Aaronson's core competency is working with companies of all sizes to resolve sophisticated commercial and business disputes. Over the years she has brokered a wide variety of agreements, oftentimes in situations where the conventional wisdom was that agreement could not be reached. A tenacious and creative problem solver, Maxine brings to the table nearly 40 years of experience in business, tax, and employee benefits matters, including expertise in ERISA. She also has significant experience resolving cases with complex case management situations, such as multiple parties, governmental entities, and public policy issues.

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With 30+ years of experience, I now work full time as mediator, arbitrator, discovery referee, and special master throughout California. Areas of focus include personal injury, construction (including construction defect), habitability, injury to minors, public entity liability, and cannabis disputes.

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I am a financial disputes mediator specializing in securities litigation (customer and employment disputes), and other areas of law where financial issues are involved such as family law (especially pre-marital agreements), real estate, probate, trusts and estates, health care and elder law. To do this effectively, I draw upon my broad knowledge of financial matters while utilizing a facilitative approach to achieve a reasonable, durable and, at times, evaluative, resolution. I am on the FINRA Roster of Mediators, FINRA Panel of Arbitrators, and earned my LL.M. in Dispute Resolution (Mediation) from the Straus Institute at Pepperdine SOL. Visit www.AragonMediation.com.

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Erin R. Archerd received her first mediation training at Harvard Law School, where she was Advanced Training Director for the Harvard Mediation Program. A former director of the Mediation Clinic at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, she now teaches Commercial Law and ADR as an Associate Professor at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. Erin is on the Executive Committee of the State Bar of Michigan Dispute Resolution Section, serves as Co-Chair of the American Bar Association Dispute Resolution Ethics Committee, and regularly trains and speaks on mediation and other ADR processes.

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For over 35 years, Earlene Baggett-Hayes has served as an attorney, arbitrator, mediator and trainer, and in corporate management positions. Arbitration panels include Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, Financial Industry Regulatory Agency, Ohio State Employment Relations Board and American Arbitration Association. Earlene has mediated hundreds of cases in employment, property, business, domestic and criminal cases. Panels include the Darden Corporation, Ohio/OCSEA Mediation panel and the National Bar Association Certified Mediator and Arbitrator rosters. Earlene's mediation style is facilitative and includes evaluative and/or transformative techniques. Recently, Earlene was inducted into the International Academy of Mediators.

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Maureen Beyers has arbitrated hundreds of arbitrations throughout the US since her ADR practice began in 1995. Maureen is a member of several ADR facilitation organizations including AAA and NAM, among others, and is regularly included in the rosters of Best Lawyers and Super Lawyers. Maureen is also a Fellow and Chartered Arbitrator with CIArb. In addition to hundreds of hours conducting and attending alternative dispute resolution programs, Maureen has attended formal mediator training at the Strauss Institute at Pepperdine School of Law. Maureen maintains offices in New York and Arizona. Visit www.bfazlaw.com for more information.

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Ava Borrasso FCIArb serves as counsel and arbitrator. Before establishing the firm in 2015, she was a partner with a prominent international litigation and arbitration boutique for nearly a decade, acting as lead counsel in disputes before the ICDR, AAA and ICC. She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, a panel member of the ICDR and the AAA complex commercial panel, and registered ICC member and serves on the Board of Directors of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, North America Branch. Ms. Borrasso sits as sole, panel and emergency arbitrator in international and domestic arbitrations.

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Ms. Browning began her ADR Firm in 2016. Her practice comprises entirely of mediation and arbitration serving Texas and Delaware. She is a licensed attorney in Delaware (2004) and Texas (2008). Prior to her ADR practice, she practiced law first as a civil attorney (2004-2007) and later served as a Deputy Attorney General with the Department of Justice for the State of Delaware (2010-2013). Also, in 2006-2007, Ms. Browning taught property law and legal research at Wesley College. Ms. Browning is a current member of the Association of Attorney Mediators and the ADR Section of State Bar of Texas.

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Deborah helps parties in conflict resolve complex business disputes through mediation or arbitration. Deborah often serves as sole arbitrator or panel chair. She is a member of the AAA's Large Complex Case, Technology and Commercial Panels and CPR's Panel of Distinguished Neutrals. She is a Fellow of the College of Commercial Arbitrators, and on the Tech List of the Silicon Valley Arbitration and Mediation Center. Deborah is certified as a mediator by the International Mediation Institute. She has mediated and arbitrated disputes arising between businesses in many sectors, and among business owners. For more information, see www.dacolemanlaw.com.

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Kathy studied at Boston College and received her Architectural degree from Pratt Institute. She began her architectural career in Boston, working with several high-profile Architects, establishing her own firm, KC Architects in Boston, in 1985. Returning to Connecticut, she worked at the SLAM Collaborative for many years before launching a partnership with ID3A, an interior design and architectural firm, in 2011. In 2018, Kathy again established KC Architects, LLC, Connecticut, where she continues to maintain her trusted clients and architectural projects and has expanded services to include Alternative Dispute Resolution services as an architect.

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Ernestina Cruz is a sole practitioner with offices located in Santa Fe and Taos, New Mexico. Her areas of practice include employment law, civil rights, and personal injury. She currently represents plaintiffs and previously worked as a civil defense attorney for 10 years where she represented corporate and governmental clients in the same practice areas, in both state and federal court. In addition to her litigation practice, she is a mediator/settlement facilitator. Cruz is also involved with bar related activities and, in 2020, serves as the President of the State Bar of New Mexico.

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Deborah Deitsch-Perez is an experienced trial lawyer with Stinson Leonard Street LLP in Dallas, TX. Her principal areas of practice include domestic and international arbitration and litigation over complex credit facilities, cross-border transactions, troubled real estate loans, tax liabilities, hospitality and gaming, as well as initiative-related election law.

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Archangela (“Angela”) DeSilva is a trained arbitrator and mediator. She is an AAA Employment Panel member and has over 30 years’ labor & employment law experience. In addition to her WIDR membership, she is as a member of the Association of Attorney Mediators, and the Dispute Resolution sections of the Houston and Texas Bar Associations.

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Margarita Echevarria is licensed to practice law in New York & New Jersey and conducts her Arbitration/Mediation practice through membership on the following panels: American Arbitration Association Commercial Panel, FINRA Commercial Panel, Federal Court Panels (NJ/SDNY/EDNY) and State Court Civil/Commercial Panels (NJ/NY). Cases have included B2B loan disputes, Insurance Coverage disputes (both Administered & Non-administered assignments), Property and Breach of Contract/Unjust enrichment disputes. Her FINRA arbitration cases have included employment, suitability, fraud, private placements, contract breaches and investment management disputes. She has served as Chair/Panel member in these disputes and is fluent in Spanish & English.

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Amy Eckman is a highly experienced dispute resolution professional with the unique perspective, expertise and judgment of both a business executive and a lawyer. A lawyer by training, admitted to the bars of both New York and New Hampshire, she spent over 25 years as a business executive and co-

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I am an arbitrator committed to following the law and to providing all parties with a fair hearing. I have considerable experience in banking and commercial issues and in employment law.

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Pamela has over 30 years of experience in environmental law. Her diverse practice experience includes compliance counseling; litigating multi-party allocation proceedings; representing project sponsors in obtaining permits for residential and industrial development projects, and climate change planning. Additionally, she has assisted clients with corporate and real estate transactions, due diligence investigations, audits and brownfields and contaminated site redevelopment. Pamela also regularly advises clients concerning ethics and professional conduct matters. Pamela is an experienced mediator. She serves as a mediator for the United States District Court, Southern and Eastern Districts, and the Supreme Court of New York - Commercial Division.

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Felicia Farber is a full-time arbitrator, mediator and workplace investigator based in New Jersey and New York. Voted 2019 ADR Practitioner of the Year by the New Jersey State Bar Association, she facilitates the resolution of civil, commercial and family disputes through mediation, arbitration, negotiation and workplace investigations. Her ADR practice is focused on employment, construction, complex business/commercial matters, contracts, homeowners/condo/coop associations, environmental insurance, divorce, torts, medical malpractice, foreclosure and estate/will contests. She serves as an arbitrator for the AAA, FINRA, and New Jersey Courts, and is a certified federal court mediator, NJ court-approved civil mediator, and AAA Mediator

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Lainey Feingold is a disability rights lawyer focusing on digital access, an international speaker, and the author of *Structured Negotiation, A Winning Alternative to Lawsuits*. Lainey's book is packed with win-win stories of accessibility advocacy with some of the largest organizations in the U.S., all without lawsuits. In 2017 Lainey was named one of the 13 Legal Rebels by the ABA Journal, the national magazine of the American Bar Association. That year she was also named the individual recipient of the John W. Cooley Lawyer as Problem Solver award, given annually by the Dispute Resolution Section of the ABA.

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Natalie C. Fleury, JD is an Ombuds at the Medical College of Wisconsin, and is also the principal of Conflict Management Concepts, LLC, a dispute resolution consulting firm offering mediation, arbitration, training, dispute resolution systems design and dispute resolution program development. Her experience includes compliance work, arbitration, mediation, and dispute resolution systems design for clients such as DaimlerChrysler, Ford Motor Company, and the Better Business Bureau. Ms. Fleury is also the Program Coordinator for Dispute Resolution at Marquette Law School.

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VERLYN FRANCIS is an experienced arbitrator and mediator in Corporate/Commercial, Estates, Family and Civil matters. She is the Principal Consultant, Isiko Dispute Resolution Consultants; Professor of ADR at Centennial College, Canada; and guest lecturer LL.M. Dispute Resolution program at Osgoode Hall Law School. Verlyn received her J.D. and LL.M. (ADR) from Osgoode Hall Law School and is a lawyer in Ontario, Canada. She publishes and presents on the Impact of Culture on Conflict, Diversity and Inclusion, and Process Design. Recent publication is “Infusing Dispute Resolution Teaching and Training with Culture and Diversity” (33 Ohio St. J. on Disp. Resol. 1).

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American Business Woman, Philanthropist, former U.S. Navy Doc - prior to her role as Deputy-Director of the Institute of Higher Global Studies; Ms. Friedman's movements through coalition building, governance and exemplary leadership, fostered a United Presence within the Tennessee-Valley, involving many high-powered leaders across Alabama, New York, and around the world. Mediating - assisting local judges with lightening their caseload state-wide; Friedman launched mediation legal services for the indigent. With countless invitations to sit on notable boards, Friedman accepted one. Ms. Friedman is currently a member in good standing, with the prominent Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity.

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Aric J. Garza is licensed throughout the State of Texas and in the United States District Court, Western District of Texas (San Antonio). He is an arbitrator with the American Arbitration Association, commercial and consumer law panels. Mr. Garza is also credentialed as a certified mediator. Aric has extensive litigation experience, having represented both plaintiffs and defendants in multi-party commercial litigation matters for over 18 years. He has represented businesses, governmental entities and individuals in such cases as consumer law claims involving colleges and universities, nonprofit corporation claims against multinational banks, and individual claims against major franchises.

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Linda Gerstel, Esq., is a mediator and arbitrator at Gerstel ADR, P.L.L.C. Prior to establishing her own practice, she was a commercial litigator at Anderson Kill where she represented clients domestically and internationally in contractual disputes. She serves on ADR panels, including the AAA's Large Complex Commercial Panel, CPR and FINRA. Her service on Court mediation panels, includes, the Second Circuit Court of Appeals, United States District Court for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, and New York Supreme Court Mediation Panel. She is an Adjunct Professor of ADR at Fordham Law School.

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Active in all aspects of the Construction Industry since 1997 on projects ranging from \$100K to \$300MM in value. Projects included commercial buildings, hospitals, hotels, offices, residential buildings and condominiums, sports complexes, performing arts centers, garage, retail and warehouse facilities involving new construction and renovation. Began as a generalist in a small construction firm performing duties as a contract administrator, assistant project manager and general assistant for estimating, field supervision and safety in small construction company. Progressed to become a cost engineer analyzing entitlement and value of change order requests from subcontractors to achieve resolution of claims.

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Ruth V. Glick is an arbitrator and mediator with over 25 years' experience in the ADR field. She serves as a full time neutral for business contract and tort, financial, securities, labor and employment, real estate, technology and health care disputes. She is on the Large and Complex case panel, ICDR, national commercial arbitration and mediation, Labor and Employment panels of the American Arbitration

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Ms. Goyette has resolved hundreds of complex disputes as a full time Special Master and Mediator since 1998. Through productive negotiations, Ms. Goyette has facilitated settlements ranging from cost waivers to \$ 35 million.

Ms. Goyette is an ADR panelist for numerous appellate, state and federal courts, serves as Special Master and Referee for more than two dozen California Superior Courts and acts as Special Master in national and statewide class actions. She enjoys the highest Top Rated Lawyer-AV® Preeminent™ Martindale Hubbell rating, Super Lawyers® distinction in Alternative Dispute Resolution and membership in National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals.

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I am the executive director of Dispute Resolution Institute, Inc. We manage several mediations programs throughout the state of Illinois. My mediation experience is focused mainly on family and divorce cases. Additionally, I provide mediations on small claims cases, elder cases, community disputes, agricultural disputes, mortgage foreclosure cases and child custody and abuse cases. I also enjoy planning and providing mediation trainings to the bench, bar and public.

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Gilda Turitz is a full-time independent arbitrator and mediator in San Francisco at Turitz Dispute Resolution, established in 2017 after over 30 years as a business trial lawyer of complex commercial cases. Named by Best Lawyers in America® as 2019 San Francisco Arbitration “Lawyer of the Year;” Fellow, College of Commercial Arbitrators; CEDR Accredited Mediator; recognized by Northern California Super Lawyers® for ADR and business litigation; AV® Martindale-Hubbell rating. Gilda serves on arbitration and mediation rosters of American Arbitration Association, CPR's Panel of Distinguished Neutrals, National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals, and USDC, Northern California (mediation and ENE). Visit www.turitzadr.com.

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Debra Vey Voda-Hamilton is the principal of Hamilton Law and Mediation (HLM). Debra provides an alternative means of resolving disagreements between pet enthusiasts over misunderstandings, misstatements or oversights. She helps owners deal with neighbors over barking dog and divorcing couples arranging pet custody agreements. She enables a less heated conversation to take place between vets and their clients, condo/coop - tenant and management and pet information or product providers and their readers or clients. Her mediation practice provides a neutral ground on which to have the conversation you want to have while peacefully retaining a relationship among the parties.

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Conna A. Weiner, Esq. brings to her U.S. and international mediation and arbitration practice a unique combination of litigation, transactional and in-house experience after roles with internationally known outside counsel and multinational life sciences (pharmaceuticals, medical device, diagnostics, vaccines) and health care companies. Ms. Weiner has special expertise in the full range of complex legal issues and contractual arrangements prevalent in life sciences (such as intellectual property, licensing and acquisitions, supply agreements and the research, development and commercialization of pharmaceuticals, medical devices and diagnostics), health care and other technology arenas; she also has extensive experience in employment and franchising matters.

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Robyn Weinstein is currently the ADR Administrator at the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. Prior to her current role, Ms. Weinstein served as a fellow at the Kukin Program for Conflict Resolution at Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, where she currently serves as an adjunct professor of mediation and negotiation. Previously, Ms. Weinstein served as the program director for the Los Angeles office of Arts Arbitration and Mediation Services at California Lawyers for the Arts and as an adjunct clinical professor of mediation at the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine.

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Dana Welch has nearly twenty years experience as an arbitrator. She has served as a neutral in over 200 matters, focusing on commercial and employment matters. She is a fellow of the College of Commercial Arbitrators and the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. Located in the San Francisco Bay Area, she is available to serve anywhere.

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