

Washington Mediation Association eNews

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Talk To Me!



As we enter the New Year, we can't help but ponder the future of mediation and wonder what direction it will take. We wonder what role the Washington Mediation Association (WMA) will play to define, develop and promote mediation in the 21st century. And how best to support WMA members.

With this issue of the eNewsletter, WMA's Board of Directors begins a dialogue with its members to explore these questions.

WMA members are encouraged to discuss your thoughts about and answers to these questions with your board representatives and with each other at regional meetings or through the web site's message forum.

In a later edition of the eNewsletter, we'll report back to you on the outcome of this dialogue. Only then will we be able to chart a course for WMA's future.

Dear Kenneth,

2005 promises to be an exciting year for mediation practitioners in Washington State. With the introduction of the Uniform Mediation Act in the legislature and the continued mainstreaming of mediation as a resolution technique, the word "alternative" may disappear from the definition of mediation.

The articles in this newsletter ponder the future of mediation. In addition, we take time to welcome our newest members and newest certified members. Finally, as we approach the end of the WMA year we encourage members to step forward and serve on the board for the 2005-2006 term. Please contact any current board member to volunteer or to recommend someone for the board. Elections will take place just prior to the 2005 Northwest ADR Conference.

The Future of Mediation

By Nicholas Martin Published in "Cascade Business News," June 18, 1997 Revised and updated February 23, 2000

In this final article in our series, we will project ahead to what can be expected in the next few years, as ADR (alternative dispute resolution), and especially mediation, become more and more firmly established as the preferred means of resolving those disputes that we are unable to resolve on our own. What follows is based not in guarantees but on visible trends and the perspectives of the author, in whose opinion the time frame, more than the ultimate outcome, will be the primary variable.

[The Future »](#)

"Two Pictures of the Future: ADR in the New Millennium"



Keynote Address by Robert A. Baruch Bush to the New Jersey Statewide Conference on ADR, June 1999.

The topic of the day, ADR in the new millennium, calls to mind the great futurists like Alvin Toffler and John Naisbitt. So, with apologies to them, I offer some futurist speculations and

reflections, based on past developments and present trends, on what the ADR field might look like in the future.

[Two Pictures »](#)

News From Washington

FMCS Director Announces Resignation

Peter J. Hurtgen, director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS), announced his resignation, effective Dec. 31, 2004 citing personal reasons for his decision.

Hurtgen led FMCS since August 2002. His tenure at the agency was marked by major initiatives building federal mediator expertise to

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address complex collective bargaining issues and increasing public awareness of the FMCS.

In resigning, Hurtgen praised the staff of FMCS and the work of its federal mediators.

News and Views

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Are ADR Practitioners Engaged in the Unauthorized Practice of Law?

As mediation gains in popularity and grows in use, the question has arisen: could the practices and techniques of

dispute resolution practitioners be interpreted as the unauthorized practice of law?

For more information on this issue, access <http://www.acrnet.org/pdfs/upl-draftprpt-aug04.pdf> for the Association for Conflict Resolution's proposed policy statement on the Authorized Practice of Mediation or <http://www.abanet.org/lpm/mdp/reports/vaguidelines.pdf> for the American Bar Association's report on Guidelines on Mediation and the Unauthorized Practice of Law.

CONGRATULATIONS to new and newly certified WMA members!

New Members:

Bob Cameron, James Christensen, Rich Fisher, Dennis Foran, Gloria Fulcher, Julia Gold, Disa Graham, Ayishetu Hamidu-Musah, Craig Mott, Joseph Ortiz, Kathy Rostkoski, Dan Sockle, Stuart Watson, Susan Whaley, and Sharon Winters.

Newly Certified Members

Andrea Friedman, Audi Ritz, Nancy Maisano, Gill Raymond, Shane Miller, and Sharon Winters.

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