

Maryland Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office (MACRO)

Maryland Law Firm ADR Pledge Campaign

The Maryland Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office (MACRO) is a 40-member multi-disciplinary group created and chaired by the Honorable Robert M. Bell, Chief Judge of Maryland's highest court. MACRO is working to advance the appropriate use of mediation, arbitration and other dispute resolution processes in every sector of society, including the business sector. As part of this effort, MACRO has formed a Business Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Initiative to promote ADR throughout Maryland's business community.

The Maryland Business ADR Initiative urges Maryland law firms to have lawyers in their firms be knowledgeable about ADR and to discuss ADR with clients in all appropriate cases. This Pledge obliges subscribing law firms to seriously explore negotiation, mediation, arbitration or other ADR processes in conflicts arising with other Pledge signatories before pursuing full-scale litigation. For the full list of business and law firm subscribers, see MACRO's website at www.courts.state.md.us/macro. The Maryland Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office supports this program and is interested in highlighting Maryland signatory businesses and law firms as state leaders in managing business conflicts.

NEW SIGNERS: Sign this page and fax it to the Maryland Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office at 410-260-3541.

NAME OF PERSON TO DIRECT FUTURE CORRESPONDENCE _____
FIRM NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY, STATE, ZIP _____
TELEPHONE _____
FAX _____
EMAIL _____

The Pledge

We recognize that for many disputes there may be methods more effective for resolution than traditional litigation. Alternative dispute resolution (ADR) procedures -- used in conjunction with litigation or independently -- can significantly reduce the costs and burdens of litigation, preserve business relationships and result in solutions not available in court.

In recognition of the foregoing, we subscribe to the following statements of policy on behalf of our firm. First, appropriate lawyers in our firm will be knowledgeable about ADR. Second, where appropriate, the responsible attorney will discuss with the client the availability of ADR procedures so that the client can make an informed choice concerning resolution of the dispute.

PARTNER EXECUTING ON BEHALF OF FIRM _____
(signature)

PARTNER'S NAME _____
(please print or type)

DATE _____

*This Pledge is the same as the CPR Institute's Law Firm ADR Pledge. CPR is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the use of ADR in business. More than 1500 law firms have signed the CPR Law Firm Pledge Program including 400 of the nation's 500 largest firms. To see the full list of CPR signatories see its website at www.cpradr.org. Maryland law firms that have already taken CPR's Pledge are simply reaffirming that pledge and are not adopting any additional obligations. Signatories that have not taken CPR's Pledge may be listed with CPR simply by checking the box below.

Please list my law firm with CPR . My law firm is already listed with CPR .