



The ABCs of ADR

Understanding Michigan's Alternative Dispute Resolution System

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Today's Presenters







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What is ADR?

- A series of techniques that can be used to avoid the necessity of having a dispute heard by a panel of jurors
- A series of techniques that can be used to avoid the necessity to initiate litigation
- A series of techniques that be used to resolve a dispute no matter what stage the case is at during litigation, even up to and before a Michigan Supreme Court ruling on the case.

The ABCs of ADR

Why use ADR?

- Final resolution of dispute
- Removes risk of having a judge (or panel of judges) issue a ruling on a key issue in the case, including dismissal of the lawsuit.
- Cost effective
- Discovery tool

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ADR Options in Michigan

- Case Evaluation (mandatory)
- Facilitation (voluntary, but can made mandatory)
- Binding Arbitration (voluntary, typically contract driven)



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Case Evaluation

- Mandatory under Michigan Court Rules
- Costs
- Case evaluation panel
- Selection of case evaluators
- Submission of case evaluation summary
- Case evaluation hearing
- Case evaluation award
- Accepting or rejecting the case evaluation award
- Removing a case from case evaluation



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Facilitation

- Typically, voluntary
- Court's power to order facilitation
- Costs
- Selection of facilitator
- Submitting the facilitation summary
- Facilitation hearing
- Facilitator's proposal



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Binding Arbitration

- Typically, mandated by contract
- Details of contract provision making binding arbitration mandatory
- Arbitrator section (including number of arbitrators)
- Costs
- Hi-lows
- Arbitration agreement
- Arbitration award
- Post-arbitration award activities
- Finality (waiver of appeal opportunity)



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What ADR Process is Best for you?

- What is you goal in going to ADR?
- Do you want to settle the case?



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