

**The 2015 Southern Dispute Resolution Program Conference**  
Lipscomb University Institute for Conflict Management  
Nashville, Tennessee

**AGENDA**

**Thursday, November 19, 2015**

**-All sessions today in Ezell Center, Room 363-**

- 8:00 - 8:30      **Registration and Continental Breakfast**  
*Room 363*
- 8:30 - 8:45      **Welcome & Introductions**  
*Hon. Sharon G. Lee, Chief Justice, Tennessee Supreme Court,  
Tennessee Supreme Court Liaison to the ADR Commission  
Howard H. Vogel, Esq., Tennessee ADR Commission Chair*
- 8:45 - 9:45      **The Future of ADR Training - Virginia**  
*Distance learning is being incorporated into the curricula of many  
institutions of higher learning. Mediation continuing education is available  
online. Discussions about the use of online training for mediators are ongoing.*
- 9:45 - 10:00     **BREAK**
- 10:00 - 11:00    **Mediation Ethics & Discipline - Florida**  
*Part of the responsibility of most state ADR commissions is to provide a disciplinary  
system for mediators. Some state commissions issue advisory ethics opinions. The  
functions and ways for administration of these responsibilities vary, and are  
occasionally modified.*
- 11:00 - 11:15    **BREAK**
- 11:15 - 12:15    **Evolution of Mediation Rules & Policy - Tennessee**  
*The early adoption of rules for state mediation programs followed several early  
models, modified to fit the circumstances of individual states. Over the years, the states  
have modified those rules and adopted policies to assist in the administration of a  
mediation program and guidance for the practicing mediator. Various issues, such as  
confidentiality, privilege, admissibility, reporting, mediator assistance in the  
preparation of settlement memoranda, etc., have been addressed in differing ways.*
- 12:15 - 1:00     **LUNCH –**  
*Small informal group conversations on issues discussed during the morning sessions*

- 1:00 - 2:00      **Continuing Mediation Education - Georgia**  
*Most state mediation programs include a CME requirement, but those differ in varying ways, including the number of required hours. Modern technology presents new ways to deliver CME.*
- 2:00 - 2:15      **BREAK**
- 2:15 - 3:15      **Evaluation of ADR Programs – North Carolina**  
*Most institutions feel the need to self-evaluate their performance levels. There are varying ways to accomplish this and varying audiences for response. What are the best forms of data and data acquisition methods for such evaluations?*
- 3:15 - 4:15      **Pro Se & Pro Bono - Alabama**  
*These two topics overlap, in that the pro se disputant might be participating in a mediation that is being conducted by the mediator on a pro bono basis. There is an increasing need for more pro bono mediations. Some states have included pro bono availability requirements and CME and CLE incentives in their rules and policies for listed or certified mediators. Pro se disputants often pose special challenges for the mediator, whether it is a pro bono mediation or not.*
- 4:15              **ADJOURN FOR THE DAY**

**Friday, November 20, 2015**

**-All sessions today in Ezell Center, Room 363-**

- 8:30 - 9:00      **Registration and Continental Breakfast**  
*Room 363*
- 9:00 - 10:00      **New Frontiers in ADR - Maryland**  
*What lies ahead? With guidance from their respective state supreme courts, some state ADR programs may wish to expand their scope and jurisdiction to address criminal case mediation, ombuds services, elder law, mediation in special business courts, more mediator regulation or less, reporting requirements, greater use of technology, etc.*
- 10:00 - 10:15      **BREAK**
- 10:15 - 11:15      **Baby Boomers and Vanishing Trial Effects – South Carolina**  
*We are getting older. For many reasons, the civil justice system continues to evolve. Fewer cases proceed to trial and fewer cases are filed. The younger generation of lawyers approach practice in differing ways from their senior partners. In part, this relates to the advantages of technology. How do these circumstances affect ADR programs and how will they affect the future?*
- 11:15 - 12:30      **LUNCH & Final Comments Discussion**
- 12:30              **ADJOURN FOR THE CONFERENCE**