# The La Jolla Center for Dispute Resolution

The La Jolla Center was founded in 2001 to coordinate the work of dedicated, experienced professionals in the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Community. The Center is committed to the efficient and effective resolution of business, commercial and consumer disputes through the use of compensated professional neutrals with specific experience in the area of the dispute. Our specific expertise extends to the fields of construction, the environment, human resources and complicated business disputes. Although concentrating its efforts in Southern California, the Center has contracts throughout the State and the Country for resolving interstate, national or international issues.

## **Our Services**

The **La Jolla Center** offers a variety of ADR services and often combines some or all of the traditional services to best fit a client's problem. A short list of our services includes:

#### Mediation

Mediation is a facilitated discussion led by an experienced Mediator, exploring ways in which disputes can be resolved. Mediation is a voluntary, non-binding process that allows parties to take ownership of the dispute and design an outcome that is both more flexible and more flexible and more realistic than a court or arbitrator could fashion. **Dick Bayer** and **Don Fobian** are the featured mediators for **The La Jolla** 

Center. Dick Bayer has been mediating cases since 1996 and is credentialed through the San Diego Mediation Center (now the National Conflict Resolution Center); Don Fobian has been mediating since 1990 and served as Advanced Mediation Trainer at the San Diego Mediation Center for several years. Complete resumes are available on our website, as well as the full panel for mediators. All Center mediators in San Diego are on the San Diego Superior Court Panel, as well as other State and regional panels. The Center offers a special Real Estate Mediation program, providing 4 hours of mediation for \$600 (total). The Center also provides mediation services tailored to statutory Homeowner **Association Mediations.** 

"Each year, Americans spend more than \$150 billion suing each other as millions of lawsuits are filed each year." Greta Van Sustren, Burden of Proof

## **Arbitration**

Some disputes are not susceptible to a negotiated resolution. For those disputes, Arbitration provides a cost-effective process for resolving the dispute between two or more contending parties. Arbitrations are heavily regulated in California. The Center has designed rules for Commercial Arbitrations as well as Consumer Arbitrations. All arbitrations are conducted within the scope of recently passed legislation and full disclosures of all possible conflicts are made prior to the Arbitration. Our panel of arbitrators is

drawn from the **most experienced lawyers** with specific expertise in the area under review. Arbitration hearings can take place anywhere in the Country under **Center** guidance.

#### **Facilitation**

The **La Jolla Center** has great experience in facilitation of both public and private disputes. Facilitation deals with large group conflicts and emerging problems, often taking place prior to an actual conflict arising. **Don Fobian** has participated in community and the police department facilitations, and was a key facilitator between police and demonstrators in a recent Bio-Tech conference held in San Diego. **Mr. Fobian** has facilitated over 50 public or private disputes including land use and development disputes.

### Collaboration

Collaborations are designed to seek out and resolve disputes before they occur, anticipate expected problems with previous resolution scenarios and draw in a wide-range of stakeholders to insure that all important views on an issue are heard. Collaborations are used for discussions of public issues and publicprivate partnerships. Emerging national policy requires pre-dispute conferences or collaborations in many environmental settings. Dick Bayer has twice delivered papers on Environmental Collaboration to the annual Integrated Petroleum Environmental Consortium in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Center is involved in developing and implementing these processes throughout the Country.

# **Special Programs**

The La Jolla Center features a number of special programs it has developed alone or in collaboration with other service providers. These services are available throughout California and the United States.



Project Alignment<sup>TM</sup> and Project Re-Alignment<sup>TM</sup> are services provided by th

are services provided by the Center in collaboration with

Team Tech, Inc. of Tumwater, Washington. Services are provided to an entire construction project, often when the parties realize the consequences of a project gone awry. PRA provides a tool-box of ADR services to analyze the problems on the job, resolve issues of history, project the future through a focused forecast and return the project to the anticipated targets for budget and timely completion.



The Center provides a full range of teaching and training in Mediation Skills, Arbitration Skills and Advanced Arbitration Training, as well as specific Construction oriented trainings. In March, 2003, the Center hosted 10 trainees from Ghana for a one-week MTI seminar in Pacific Beach.



The Center also provides systems design for the creation of

entire dispute resolution systems. We have recently worked with the **Ho Chunk Nation** of Wisconsin to design and implement an

ADR system for the Nation's 4,000 employees. Our focus is on resolution. The problem drives the solution; we recognize that many ADR tools are available to every dispute and we can design and build a process aimed directly at an efficient resolution of the problem. **Project Alignment** is just one example of **Design/Build** Services offered.



Dick Bayer is the president-elect and Don Fobian is the Secretary of the California

The Voice of ADR in Sacramento

Dispute Resolution Council, the

organization that provides lobbying efforts on behalf of ADR providers throughout California. This important work incorporates the Center's commitment to the ADR profession and provides a state wide network of resources for Clients of the Center.

#### For more information, contact:

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No alternative in dispute resolution™