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Neil Okazaki RCBA President Re: Dispute Resolution Service Membership

Dear Counsel:

Thank you for your interest in becoming a panel member of the RCBA Dispute Resolution Service. In 1994, the Riverside County Bar Association formed this nonprofit corporation for the purposes of providing mediation and arbitration services at reasonable rates in Riverside County and surrounding areas.

In addition to providing private arbitration and mediation services directly to and for attorneys, insurance companies, and pro per litigants at the flat rate of \$300.00 per hour (split between the parties), Dispute Resolution Service ("DRS") also has a contract with the County of Riverside to provide mediation services to the Riverside Superior Court. Accordingly, our panel members are paid \$225 *per hour* for conducting private hearings directly through DRS, and \$250 *per session* for court mediations. (To be considered for panel membership on one or both of these programs, please specify as such on your application.)

All applications are subject to review by the DRS Board of Directors. Prospective applicants must be an active attorney member, or a retired judge, with the State Bar of California and be in good standing with the legal community. Additionally as DRS is sponsored by the Riverside County Bar Association, DRS requires that panelists be members of the RCBA as well, and must be licensed to practice law in California with at least 10 years of experience. Applicants must also have 20 hours of mediation training/continuing legal education <u>or</u> 6 hours of mediation training/continuing legal education and 40 hours of experience as a mediator.

Enclosed, please find the membership application. We have also included information about the court mediation programs administered by DRS. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

RCBA DISPUTE RESOLUTION SERVICE, INC.

:bt Enclosures Rev. 3-2022

Arbitrator/Mediator Application

		•	DRS Court) you wish to participate in: Settlement Conferences/Mediations ations/Mediations				
ase P	rint)							
CO	NTACT INFORMAT	ION						
Nar	me		CA State Bar #					
Firn	m Name							
Bus	siness Address:							
	City		State	Zip				
Mai	iling Address <i>(if diffe</i>	erent)						
	City		State	Zip				
Em	ail Address		(Cell #				
Pho	one #	Fax #	<u> </u>					
1.)	I am (check all ap ☐ an acti ☐ a mem	CKGROUND INFORMATION oplicable boxes): ve member of the State Bar of ber of the Riverside County E d judge in California	of California for at least	10 years				
2.)	Date Admitted to	State Bar of California	Years of	f Active Bar Membership				
	☐ I am also admitted to practice law in the states listed below:							
			Dor#	Voars of Active Membership				
	State	Date Admitted	Dal #	rears of Active Metribership _				

3.)	Mediation/Arbitration Training								
	Organization	Col	urse Title	Hou	rs	Date(s)			
4.)	Mediation/Arbitration Experience (List any affiliations with Dispute Resolution Providers)								
	Organization		ADR Services You Provided		Dates				
	Organization		(Mediation, Arbitration, S	Settlement)	(Beg	in & End)			
	How many mediations of	How many mediations of litigated cases have you mediated?							
	Have you ever been removed by a court as a mediator? Yes No If "Yes," describe the circumstances including the court, the date you were removed and the reasons f your removal.								
	Languages other than E	nglish in w	hich you can conduct mediati						
i.)	Professional Backgroun	d:							
•	Please indicate the approximate number of Superior Court cases in which you have had principal responsibilit last five (5) years:								
	. , ,		Business	_ Family Law					
	Other								
	Please indicate the approximate number of Superior Court cases you TRIED in the last five (5) years:								
	Personal Injury _		Business	_ Family Law					
	Other								

	Have you ever been disciplined by the State Bar of California or by a bar association or other professional licensing entity in any state or by a court of record, including being sanctioned or held in contempt? Yes No					
	Have you ever been convicted or pleaded no contest to a felony or misdemeanor? Yes (If "Yes," provide additional information in a separate attachment.)					
	Are you a defendant in any pending felony or misdemeanor proceeding? Yes No (If "Yes," provide additional information in a separate attachment.)					
6.)	Continuing Education: I understand that at least six (6) hours of continuing education or training every two (2 years, including recent developments in California mediation law, mediation ethics and mediation confidentialist are required and that I have a continuing duty to disclose my compliance to the DRS.					
7.)	Professional Liability: DRS will not defend or indemnify any ADR panelist who serves on our program. DF panelists are encouraged to seek errors and omissions insurance from a qualified insurance provider.					
8.)	Types of matters I would take:					
	□ Bad Faith □ Family Law □ Probate □ Bankruptcy □ Insurance □ Products Liability □ Business □ Intellectual Property □ Professional Malpractice □ Construction □ Landlord/Tenant □ Real Property □ Contract □ Lemon Law □ Tort Law □ Employment/Labor □ Medical Malpractice □ Other □ Environmental □ Personal Injury/Wrongful Death □ Other					
9.)	If selected as a mediator/arbitrator, I would like my fees paid to:					
	Myself (Tax ID #)					
	☐ My Law Firm (Tax ID #)					
	☐ Public Service Law Corporation (RCBA's free legal clinic)					
10.)	Please attach a copy of your Curriculum Vitae.					
understand arbitrations accordance originally as future servi connection	d and will abide by the RCBA Dispute Resolution Service Mediation/Arbitration Rules and Procedures. I and agree that all matters assigned to me through the Dispute Resolution Service (DRS), including mediations, or Court Mediations/Settlement Conferences, shall be conducted only in coordination with DRS and in with its rules and procedures. Any continuing or future services that I perform in connection with any matter ssigned to me through DRS shall be referred to and arranged through DRS. All payments for such continuing or ces shall be made by the parties to DRS, and I shall not solicit nor accept direct payment for services provided in with matters related to assignments through the Dispute Resolution Service.					
Signature:	Date: Rev. 1-2012					

DRS Court Mediation Programs

RCBA Dispute Resolution Service (DRS) administers five mediation programs for the Riverside County Superior Court. These programs are funded by the Dispute Resolution Programs Act (DRPA) through the County of Riverside.

Family Law Voluntary Settlement Conference (VSC) Program at Riverside

The Riverside Family Law Voluntary Settlement Conference (RIV VSC) Program was established by Judge Jackson Lucky, the Riverside Family Law Court and DRS in November 2010. The RIV VSC program was designed for family law cases wherein the parties have no legal representation. Later, the program was expanded to include cases with one side represented by counsel (if both side are represented, they're ineligible for the program). The litigants to those matters referred to the program have the opportunity to resolve their cases through mediation and file a stipulated judgment the same day. Approximately 75 percent of the cases referred to the program settle all issues and receive a judgment the same day. If all of the issues are not or cannot be resolved at the VSC, the program often still aids the parties in moving their cases forward to receive a judgment sooner.

The RIV VSC program is held on the first and third Fridays of each month at 8:30 a.m. at the Family Law Courthouse in Riverside, with approximately 10 cases on calendar each of those Fridays. DRS works with the Court to coordinate the assignment of a mediator from the DRS Riverside Family Law VSC panel to each case on each calendar date. DRS mediators are compensated a total \$250.00 stipend for each session.

Family Law Voluntary Settlement Conference (VSC) Program at Indio

The Indio Family Law Voluntary Settlement Conference (IND VSC) program is held on the second Friday of every month at the Larson Justice Center in Indio at 8:15 a.m. Both parties to a matter must be unrepresented in order to be eligible for the IND VSC program. DRS works with the Court to coordinate the assignment of a mediator from the DRS Indio Family Law VSC panel to each case on that respective calendar date. There are no more than five cases referred to the IND VSC program each month. DRS mediators are compensated a total \$250.00 stipend for each session.

Trial Assignment Mediation Program at Riverside (TAM at Riverside, RIV TAM)

DRS and the Riverside County Superior Court work in conjunction to provide the Trial Assignment Mediation program at Riverside. TAM at Riverside was designed to give the litigants a last opportunity to settle their case before the matter proceeds to trial the following week. A wide variety of civil cases are referred to TAM at Riverside for mediation, ranging anywhere from contract to probate law. The mediations are conducted at the Riverside Historic Courthouse every Friday at 8:20 a.m. DRS mediators are compensated a total \$250.00 stipend for each appearance.

Trial Assignment Mediation Program at Southwest (TAM at Southwest/Murrieta, MUR TAM)

In January 2015, the DRS and the Riverside County Superior Court established a new TAM program at the Southwest Justice Center in Murrieta. TAM at Southwest was designed to give the litigants a last opportunity to settle their case before the matter proceeds to trial the following week. A wide variety of civil cases are referred to TAM at Southwest for mediation, ranging anywhere from contract to probate law. The mediations are conducted at the Southwest Justice Center most Fridays at 8:30 a.m. DRS mediators are compensated a total \$250.00 stipend for each appearance.

DRS/Court Probate Mediation Program

DRS and the Riverside Superior Court work in conjunction to provide the Probate Mediation Program. This is a free to low cost mediation program for probate matters. The parties receive three hours of mediation for free through the program. After the first three hours, the parties may agree to pay a reduced hourly rate through DRS, if they wish to continue with the mediation session. The Court selects the cases that are to be mediated through this program and forwards DRS and the parties to the action a Notice of Referral. DRS is responsible for coordinating the assignment of a mediator to the case and scheduling the mediation session. DRS compensates the mediator a \$250.00 stipend for the first three hours and then bills the parties for additional time spent beyond the three hours (Mediators are compensated \$225.00 per hour after the first three hours, billable to the parties). Cases are typically referred from the Riverside, Temecula and Indio courts. The mediations are usually held at the Riverside County Bar Association.

(Note: The DRS/Court Probate Mediation Program panel is separate from the Court's Civil Mediation Program panel, however, both programs are very similar. <u>DRS only schedules the</u> matters referred to our office pursuant to a Notice of Referral from the Court.)

New Panelist Questionnaire

1.	DRS Private Arbitrations/Mediations				
	a.	Will you accept private mediations through DRS? Note: Current rate is \$225.00 per hour, including all of your time spent on the matter. [] Yes [] No			
	b.	Will you accept private arbitrations through DRS? Note: Current rate is \$225.00 per hour, including all of your time spent on the matter. [] Yes [] No			
2.	DRS Co	ourt Mediations			
	a.	Would you like to join the panel for the TAM program at Riverside ? Note: Mediators are compensated a \$250.00 flat fee per Friday. The program is held every Friday virtually via Zoom. DRS will send you a calendar of the available dates and schedule you for specific dates pursuant to your availability. [] Yes [] No			
	b.	Would you like to join the panel for the <u>TAM program at Southwest</u> ? Note: Mediators are compensated a \$250.00 flat fee per Friday/Monday. The program is held most Fridays, and some Mondays (depending on the Trial Calendar), via Zoom. DRS will send you a calendar of the available dates and schedule you for specific dates pursuant to your availability. [] Yes [] No			
	C.	Would you like to join the panel for the <u>Family Law VSC program at Riverside</u> ? Mediators are compensated a \$250.00 flat fee per Friday. The program is held on the first and third Fridays at the Family Law Courthouse in Riverside at 8:30 a.m. (Due to COVID restrictions, this program is currently on hiatus.) [] Yes [] No			
	d.	Would you like to join the panel for the <u>Family Law VSC program at Indio</u> ? Mediators are compensated a \$250.00 flat fee per Friday. The program is held on the second Friday of every month at the Larson Justice Center in Indio at 8:15 a.m. (Due to COVID restrictions, this program is currently on hiatus.) [] Yes [] No			

[] Yes

[] No