

# Creative Dispute Resolutions, LLC

*Mediation, Arbitration, and Other Dispute Resolution Services Throughout Maryland and D.C.*

E-Newsletter  
April 2009

## MEDIATOR OF THE MONTH



*Ellen F. Kandell, Esq.*

After 25 years of experience in litigation and public policy work and then significant mediation training, Ellen now focuses her efforts on helping individuals and companies resolve their disputes as a full-time mediator and arbitrator. Ellen's primary practice areas include disputes in these areas: labor and employment, estates and probate, real estate, environmental claims, personal injury, workers' compensation, and business matters.

To review Ellen Kandell's complete biography, please [click here](#).

## MORE Info

Interested in learning more about mediation, arbitration, or our other

## Feature

### Our Inaugural E-Newsletter!

We are pleased to bring you our first monthly e-newsletter. Our goal is to provide interesting and timely information about mediation and arbitration in Maryland and Washington, D.C., including features on our mediators, news of upcoming events, links to relevant articles and news, and recent developments in the area. Should you have any questions or comments, please contact us or visit our website at [www.creativedisputeresolutions.com](http://www.creativedisputeresolutions.com).

- Erik C. Johnson

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## Recent ADR Articles and News

### Settlement vs. Trial - Sobering Statistics



In September 2008, the Journal of Empirical Legal Studies published a detailed study that measured the trial outcomes of 2,000 cases against the settlement offers made in those cases prior to trial. The results confirmed that parties frequently make the wrong choice when they decide to forego settlement and take their chances at trial. The study also showed quantitatively how costly that error can be. Not only do attorneys' fees and the other costs of litigation pile up the longer the case drags on, but the parties often receive less than what they could have gotten had they settled the case months (or years) earlier. [Back to top](#)

### How ADR Can Help You and Your Company

In a recent article for Smart Business Ideas (Think Business) magazine,

ADR services? Please contact us with any requests or questions you may have, or to inquire about a free seminar or presentation to your organization regarding the various ADR options.

**Tel: (301) 977-8002**

[Email Us](#)

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who may be  
interested in our  
ADR services?

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Ellen Kandell (our featured mediator this month) explained how different ADR processes can help business owners resolve their conflicts with employees, partners, vendors, and suppliers. The article provides an explanation of the different types of ADR and some questions that managers ought to ask in order to deal with conflict more effectively. A copy of the article has been posted on our website. [Back to top](#)

## **Personal Injury Mediation**

On February 27, Bill Hewitt, Don Ryder, and Erik Johnson of Creative Dispute Resolutions gave a presentation on mediation to the Personal Injury section of the Montgomery County Bar Association. The presentation covered the various benefits of mediation for personal injury claims, when mediation ought to be pursued, and the value private mediation can provide. The bottom line -- mediation of personal injury and malpractice claims helps the parties save considerable time and money, eliminates the risks and uncertainty of trial, helps manage expectations, provides a "reality check," allows the parties to remain in control, and keeps sensitive information confidential. Please click [here](#) for a copy of the outline provided at this presentation. [Back to top](#)

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## **Upcoming Events**

### ***April 24, 2009 -- Law Day sponsored by the Montgomery County Bar Association***

Several mediators from Creative Dispute Resolutions -- including Richard Lyon, Al Pasternak, and Erik Johnson -- will join Register of Wills Joseph Griffin to give a presentation on probate mediation. The presentation will include a discussion of the numerous benefits of mediation in this area, when mediation is appropriate, and tips for advocates. Creative Dispute Resolutions will also have an exhibit booth at Law Day, so please stop by from more information on our services and panel.

### ***June 10-12, 2009 -- MSBA Annual Meeting in Ocean City, Maryland***

Creative Dispute Resolutions will be an exhibitor and sponsor at the Maryland State Bar Association's Annual Meeting in Ocean City, Maryland this year. Please stop by our exhibit booth for materials regarding our ADR services and for more information about our panel of mediators and arbitrators.

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