



INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION®

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AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION OFFERS NEW STREAMLINED THREE-ARBITRATOR PANEL OPTION

New York, NY, May 1, 2017 – The American Arbitration Association® (AAA®) has launched a unique enhancement for arbitrations where the rules or the parties' agreement requires a panel of three arbitrators to hear and decide the case. Parties utilizing the new **Streamlined Three-Arbitrator Panel Option for Large Complex Cases** work with a single arbitrator through the preliminary procedural and discovery stages; the full panel of three arbitrators comes aboard only at the evidentiary hearing stage and to issue the final award.

"The AAA has found that a three-arbitrator panel can actually cost five times as much as a single arbitrator," explains Robert Matlin, Esq., AAA Senior Vice President, Commercial and Construction Divisions. "By maximizing the use of a single arbitrator, parties can capitalize on the cost savings, while still preserving their right to have the case ultimately decided by a panel of three arbitrators."

Parties can select from two routes to utilize a streamlined three-arbitrator panel.

Option 1. The panel of three is selected and appointed by the parties, with a chairperson chosen to serve as the sole arbitrator managing the preliminary procedural stages, including exchange of information and any dispositive motions.

Option 2. Parties select and appoint a single arbitrator, who manages the preliminary procedural stages, including exchange of information and any dispositive motions. Parties work with the AAA to select the two remaining arbitrators at least 60 days in advance of any hearing, with the original arbitrator serving as chair.

Matlin adds, "AAA statistics show that approximately 60% of business cases filed with the AAA are resolved prior to award. Therefore, this new service gives our customers the opportunity to take advantage of a potentially large cost saving."

For more information about the Streamlined Three-Arbitrator Panel Option, <u>click here</u>.

About the American Arbitration Association

The not-for-profit American Arbitration Association (AAA) has administered approximately 4.1 million alternative dispute resolution (ADR) cases since its founding in 1926. With 23 offices in the United





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States, in addition to Mexico, Singapore, and Bahrain, the AAA provides organizations of all sizes in virtually every industry with ADR services and products. For more information, visit <u>www.adr.org</u>.