Dispute Resolution Section

The DISPUTE RESOLUTION SECTION promotes the informed use and best practices of alternative dispute resolution processes by providing resources, educating members of the Washington State Bar Association and the public, and addressing issues relating to the growth and development of alternative dispute resolution services in the State of Washington. All WSBA members and other dispute resolution professionals may become a member of the Section.

SECTION ACCOMPLISHMENTS 10/1/22 – 9/30/23

1. Newsletter
2. Mini-CLEs
1. Legislative Bill Tracked

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 10/1/22 – 9/30/23

- Held executive committee retreat focused on incorporating recent changes to the section’s mission statement (dropping the word “Alternative”) and bylaws (adding “inactive members” of WSBA as eligible members of the section) more deeply into the section’s strategy and plans to meet members’ needs.

- Launched a groups.io online community to expand collaboration with dispute resolution (DR) practitioners who are not members of the WSBA or ineligible to join WSBA.

- Continued the “Happy Hour Northwest” on Thursday evenings, an open-ended Zoom discussion and networking opportunity for members, as well as an online book club.

- Supported and promoted events led by other sections: Beyond Theory: Using Collaborative Law for Non-Matrimonial Civil Disputes; Legal Lunchbox Series Early Family Law Mediation Event; Family Law Section event to help practitioners meet the requirements under Washington’s new Uniform Family Law Arbitration Act.

- Continued working cooperatively with the law schools in Washington State to provide DR training and help with DR presentations/competitions.

Sources: Section Bylaws, Section Financial Reports, Section Annual Report, and WSBA Demographics Report