The New American Bar Association Resolution Urging Diversity in Alternative Dispute Resolution

The WBA ADR Committee, WBA Women in the Courtroom Committee and the Boston International Arbitration Council are hosting a spirited discussion of the ABA Resolution 105, passed unanimously by the House of Delegates on August 6, 2018. This Resolution highlights the need to improve diversity in neutral selection and on ADR provider services rosters, emphasizes the importance of diverse mediators and arbitrators and urges users of alternative dispute resolution help to remedy the problem. This Resolution expands upon the 2016 ABA Resolution 113, which encourages diversity in the legal profession in general. A panel discussion will be followed by a wine and cheese reception at Prince Lobel.

A detailed supporting report accompanied the submission of Resolution 105. The full Resolution and Report are available here.

The ABA Resolution 105:
RESOLVED, That the American Bar Association urges providers of domestic and international dispute resolution to expand their rosters with minorities, women, persons with disabilities, and persons of differing sexual orientations and gender identities (“diverse neutrals”) and to encourage the selection of diverse neutrals; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the American Bar Association urges all users of domestic and international legal and neutral services to select and use diverse neutrals.