**Conflict/Dispute Resolution**

**Groups and Organizations**

**Chicagoland Area**

**RESOURCE GUIDE**



is an alternative dispute resolution (ADR) *umbrella* organization

dedicated to resolving disputes.

Visit our website at [www.acrchicago.org](http://www.acrchicago.org/)

RESOURCE GUIDE LISTING

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Illinois Long Term Health Care Ombudsman

Illinois State Bar Association Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

JAMS

Lombard Mennonite Peace Center

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Northwestern University School of Professional Studies

Resolution Systems Institute

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**Association for Conflict Resolution Illinois Chapter (ACR Illinois)**

ACR-Illinois is an alternative dispute resolution (ADR) umbrella organization dedicated to resolving disputes.  ACR-Illinois is an association of multidisciplinary professionals who have an interest in or practice managing and resolving conflicts.

We are dedicated to the development and advancement of knowledge, skills and tools in the field of conflict resolution and collaborative decision making. We are committed to providing quality monthly programs where you have the opportunity to refine your skills, learn about developments in the conflict resolution field, and further expand your network of potential colleagues.

Members can list a profile on ACR Illinois online Practitioner Directory free of charge. The directory identifies members who practice in the ADR field and is available to individuals or organizations seeking CR services.

Visit our website at [www.acrchicago.org](http://www.acrchicago.org/)

Contact us: info@acrchicago.org

ACR-Illinois

P.O. Box 301051

Chicago, IL 60630

(312) 458-0984

**ADR Systems**

ADR Systems provide successful mediation, arbitration, early neutral evaluation, special master, discovery master, appellate review and other alternative dispute resolution services.  Its continued growth is a reflection of the high level of satisfaction experienced by our clients, and our promise to deliver an unparalleled client experience.

You can trust ADR Systems to engage unbiased, professional neutrals, and our staff to utilize all available resources to ensure the resolution process has the best possible result.  There is never a charge to consult with one of our case managers, who assist clients before, during and after their session.

Based in Illinois, we conduct mediations and arbitrations at our Chicago office and at other locations throughout the United States upon request.  We offer specially designed facilities and a concierge to better serve our clients.

Visit website at [www.adrsystems.com](http://www.adrsystems.com)

**Aga Khan Conciliation and Arbitration Board for the USA (CAB USA)**

Established in 1986, CAB USA offers*pro bono* mediation for matters involving members of the American Ismaili Muslim community.  CAB USA assists parties in crafting their own resolutions to issues arising from matrimonial, family, commercial, business, and other civil liability matters.

Visit website at [the.ismaili/cab](https://the.ismaili/cab%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

The Ismaili Jamatkhana, Glenview

100 Shermer Road

Glenview, IL 60025

(847) 571-6844

**American Arbitration Association**

The American Arbitration Association® (AAA), is a not-for-profit organization with offices

throughout the U.S. The AAA role in the dispute resolution process is to administer cases, from

filing to closing. The AAA provides administrative services in the U.S., as well as abroad through its International Centre for Dispute Resolution® (ICDR). The AAA’s and ICDR’s administrative services include assisting in the appointment of mediators and arbitrators, setting hearings, and providing users with information on dispute resolution options, including settlement through mediation. Additional AAA services include the design and development of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) systems for corporations, unions, government agencies, law firms, and the courts. The AAA also provides elections services as well as education, training, and publications for those seeking a broader or deeper understanding of alternative dispute resolution.

Visit website at [www.adr.org](http://www.adr.org/)

AAA Chicago Regional Office

150 N. Michigan Avenue Suite 3050

Chicago, IL 60601

(312) 616-6560

**American Bar Association (ABA) Section of Dispute Resolution**

The Section of Dispute Resolution is the largest dispute resolution membership organization in the world. Our goal is to provide members with accessible, relevant and cutting-edge information, practice tips and skill-building opportunities. We are a vibrant forum for networking and professional development that bridges together unique and diverse perspectives.  The Section is relied upon as a leader in shaping policy that impacts dispute resolution practice in a variety of arenas.

Visit website at [www.americanbar.org/dispute](http://www.americanbar.org/dispute)

 **Association of Attorney-Mediators (Illinois Chapter)**

The Association of Attorney-Mediators (AAM) is a national nonprofit professional society of independent attorney-mediators who meet the Association’s qualifications and ethical standards. The Illinois chapter, centered in the Chicago area, offers continuing education programs that enhance the skills of mediators; assists new and less experienced attorney-mediators to develop their practices through such approaches as networking, coaching, observation and co-mediation; sponsors a program in Will County that offers members the opportunity to gain experience and make contributions to the community by mediating small claims and eviction cases on a *pro bono* basis; and promotes the use of mediation generally as an alternative to other means of dispute resolution. Our chapter also meets on a regular basis, typically monthly, for presentations and discussions of topics of interest to new and experienced mediators.

Visit website at www.attorney-mediators.org

Illinois chapter webpage: www.attorney-mediators.org/IllinoisChapter

**Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Illinois Chapter**

AFCC – the premier interdisciplinary and international association of professionals dedicated to the resolution of family conflict.  AFCC members are the leading practitioners, researchers, teachers and policymakers in the family court arena. Dispute resolution processes such as child custody mediation, parenting coordination and divorce education are just a few of the innovative ideas developed by AFCC members. AFCC has developed [Practice Guidelines and Standards](http://www.afccnet.org/ResourceCenter/PracticeGuidelinesandStandards.aspx) for family and divorce mediation, child custody evaluation, parenting coordination, brief focused assessment and court-involved involved therapists.  Task forces and special projects address the ongoing challenges faced by AFCC members and the families they serve.

Visit websites at [www.afccnet.org](http://www.afccnet.org/) and afccillinois.wildapricot.org

**Better Business Bureau of Chicago and Northern Illinois (BBB)**

The mission and values of the BBB, an organization being over 100 years old, is to educate both business and consumer how to function and find businesses that perform in an ethical, fair dealing and trustworthy commercial environment and how those seeking goods and services can find those committed to support the BBB mission. Most BBB locations offer various DR methods to help you resolve your dispute including conciliation, mediation, informal dispute resolution (IDS) and arbitration.

Visit website at [www.chicago.bbb.org](http://www.chicago.bbb.org)

**Center for Conflict Resolution (CCR)**

CCR is a non-profit organization that provides mediation and training services to individuals, communities, courts, and other institutions. Every year, volunteers and staff mediate cases with more than 5,000 people, train hundreds of new mediators, facilitate meetings and work with dozens of businesses, government agencies and organizations to create custom designed dispute resolution systems and training programs.

Visit website at [www.ccrchicago.org](http://www.ccrchicago.org/)

Center for Conflict Resolution

11 East Adams Street, Ste. 500

Chicago, IL 60603

(312) 922-6464

**Chicago Bar Association**

The Chicago Bar Association provides continuing legal education programs and promotes the administration of justice and the public good. The Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee is concerned with the uses and application of arbitration, mediation, conciliation, mini-trials and other alternate dispute resolution mechanisms and acts as a clearinghouse for information with its programming. The CBA Mediation Service is designed to provide mediations that are efficient, effective, economical, and fair. Its mediators are CBA members with at least ten years of practice experience and have completed a comprehensive mediation training course.

Visit website at [www.chicagobar.org](http://www.chicagobar.org)

**Chicago Daily Law Bulletin**
Since 1854, lawyers have relied on this newspaper for important legal information and news of the day. Reporters, editors and columnists provide daily comprehensive coverage of significant legal stories and cover every key state, federal and appellate court in Illinois. In addition to regularly publishing articles relating to dispute resolution; The Law Bulletin also publishes the *Midwest Alternative Dispute Resolution Guide* – a unique annual reference guild to attorney neutrals practicing in the Midwest.

Visit websites at [www.chicagolawbulletin.com](http://www.chicagolawbulletin.com) and [www.lawbulletin.com](http://www.lawbulletin.com)

**The Chicago International Dispute Resolution Association (CIDRA)**

CIDRA is a forum for resolving transnational business disputes. Based in Chicago, one of the world's leading commercial centers, CIDRA provides a neutral, private setting for arbitration and mediation. It maintains a roster of qualified attorneys and experts ready to serve on arbitration panels and as mediators and fact-finders. CIDRA's objective is to resolve, manage and prevent cross-border commercial conflict.

Visit website at www.cidra.org

**Circuit Court of Cook County Child Protection Mediation and Facilitation Program**

Child protection mediation empowers family members who suddenly find themselves involved in a complex and adversarial juvenile court process that will have a widespread impact on their family. It provides a confidential, collaborative, and neutral environment where everyone involved with the case, including youth, can have a frank discussion about the family and its future.

Visit website at [www.cookcountycourt.org](http://www.cookcountycourt.org)

Contact us at Cp.Mediation@cookcountyil.gov

Child Protection Mediation

2245 West Ogden Avenue, 8th Floor

Chicago, IL 60612

(312) 433-5259

**Circuit Court of Cook County Family Mediation Services**

FMS provides free, confidential child-focused mediation for divorcing, divorced, and never-married parents who are in conflict over non-financial parenting issues such as a parenting time schedule for each parent with their children, as well as a system for how parents will make major decisions about their children going into the future. Our mediators seek to enhance communication between parents and to help them focus on the needs of their children. Our goal is to empower the parents to retain their parental decision-making control over their own family. Reaching agreement is completely voluntary on the part of the parents. FMS also provides emergency intervention, conciliation, and reconciliation services for parents in our courts and facilitates “Focus on Children” classes.

Visit website at [www.cookcountycourt.org](http://www.cookcountycourt.org)

**Collaborative Divorce Illinois**

The mission of the Collaborative Divorce Illinois is to advance Collaborative Practice as a conflict resolution option in Illinois. An interdisciplinary non-profit organization, CLII is comprised of members from the legal, financial and mental health fields. CLII maintains free resources and a listing of Collaborative divorce practitioners for the public on its website.

Visit website at [www.collaborativedivorceillinois.org](http://www.collaborativedivorceillinois.org)

**Collaborative Practice Professionals of Illinois (CPPIL)**

CPPIL is dedicated to expanding Collaborative Practice throughout Illinois by connecting trained professionals to each other and to the clients who can benefit from using Collaborative Practice in matters including Business disputes, Divorce and Probate. CPPIL holds gatherings, sponsors trainings including applying CP to Civil matters and making a living with less or no litigation.

Visit website at www.collaborativepractice.com

**Cook County Court Annexed Civil Mediation Program**

The Circuit Court Law Division Judges implemented the Major Case Court-Annexed Civil Mediation Program to offer parties involved in complex litigation an opportunity to explore settlement alternatives with a highly trained and experienced mediator. Under Major Case Court-annexed Civil Mediation, a judge can order parties in civil cases to submit to mediation. It is hoped that the mediation process will allow litigants to avoid the cost, expense and drain of a lengthy trial, with no guaranteed outcome. Parties determine their own destiny in mediation and they can often reach accord, with guidance from a skilled and qualified mediator. In the Circuit Court of Cook County, major civil cases seeking damages in excess of $30,000 are eligible for referral to the Major Case Court-Annexed Civil Mediation Program.

Visit website at [www.cookcountycourt.org](http://www.cookcountycourt.org)

**DePaul University College of Law Center for Dispute Resolution**

The DePaul Center for Dispute Resolution continues the university’s long-standing tradition of public service. The mission of the center is threefold: create and administer the dispute resolution curriculum and extra-curricular activities for law students; design and provide neutral administration of mediation and dispute resolution systems that serve the courts and the public; and offer educational opportunities for practicing lawyers, judges and other professionals. These include open enrollment and on-site training programs to become mediators, advocacy in mediation seminars and colloquia on advances in arbitration and mediation round-table discussions on current practice issues confronting ADR neutrals.

Visit website at law.depaul.edu

**Dominican University School of Professional and Continuing Studies**

Our Master of Arts in Mediation and Conflict Resolution is a one-of-a-kind, interdisciplinary program for people committed to peace and justice. The convenient low-residency format allows students to earn their degree while working full-time from anywhere. We also offer two certificates, one in Mediation Skills Training (one course) and the other in Conflict Resolution (four courses).

Visit website at [www.continuingstudies.dom.edu](http://www.continuingstudies.dom.edu/)

**Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) – Dispute Resolution Services**

FINRA operates the largest securities dispute resolution forum in the United States, and has extensive experience in providing a fair, efficient and effective venue to handle a securities-related dispute. The resolution of problems and disputes is accomplished through two non-judicial proceedings: arbitration and mediation. Arbitration and mediation are two distinct ways of resolving securities and business disputes between and among investors, brokerage firms and individual brokers, and offer a prompt and inexpensive means of resolving issues.

Visit website at www.finra.org/arbitration-mediation

**Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice (IBARJ) Project**

The Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice (IBARJ) Project, a 501(c)(3) organization, seeks to create and sustain the availability of balanced and restorative justice practices and programs for citizens of Illinois through leadership, education, and promotion. We are a statewide network of professionals, volunteers and organizations that includes leaders in juvenile justice, schools, social services, corporations, small business owners, community members, and faith-based organizations.

Visit website at [www.ibarj.org](http://www.ibarj.org)

**Illinois Long Term Health Care Ombudsman**

Mandated by the Federal [Older Americans Act and the Illinois Act on Aging](http://www.illinois.gov/aging/AboutUs/Pages/rules-main.aspx), the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program protects and promotes the rights and quality of life for people who reside in long-term care facilities (nursing homes). This is done through regional ombudsman who have a hands–on working relationship with the residents and staff of the facilities within their program areas.

Visit website at ilaging.illinois.gov/programs/ltcombudsman

**Illinois State Bar Association Alternative Dispute Resolution Section**

The Illinois State Bar Association is a voluntary organization of more than 30,000 members whose primary focus is to assist Illinois lawyers in the practice of law and to promote improvements in the administration of justice. The Association engages in many important activities on behalf of the profession — among them proposing and shaping legislation, educating the public, offering family mediation training and supporting the courts and the rule of law. The mission of the ISBA Alternative Dispute Resolution Section is to inform members about developments in ADR law and practice.

Visit website at www.isba.org/sections/adr

**JAMS**

JAMS is the largest private alternative dispute resolution (ADR) provider in the world. With its prestigious panel of neutrals, JAMS specializes in mediating and arbitrating complex, multi-party, business/commercial cases – those in which the choice of neutral is crucial. JAMS offers customized dispute resolution services locally and globally through a combination of industry-specific experience, first-class client service, top-notch facilities and highly trained panelists.

Visit website at [www.jamsadr.com/chicago](http://www.jamsadr.com/chicago)

**Lombard Mennonite Peace Center**

The Lombard Mennonite Peace Center (LMPC) is a non-profit ministry, providing training and consultation services for churches and other organizations, utilizing a transformative model of mediation. Grounding its work in Bowen family systems theory, LMPC also trains leaders how to manage self in non-reactive ways in the midst of anxiety.

Visit website at [www.LMPeaceCenter.org](http://www.LMPeaceCenter.org)

**Loyola University of Chicago School of Law Dispute Resolution Program**

The Dispute Resolution Program gives Loyola law students tools to resolve conflict using negotiation, mediation, arbitration, and related processes.  Possession of solid and comprehensive dispute resolution skills gives attorneys an edge, whether in representing a client in a mediation or arbitration, negotiating a deal in a business or government setting, or settling a case. Courses range from international commercial arbitration to collaborative family law. Most Loyola dispute resolution courses are experiential, with students acquiring skills through role-playing in simulations. Loyola also offers live client experiences with students representing clients in mediations at the EEOC and Illinois Department of Human Rights and serving as mediators through the Center for Conflict Resolution.  Loyola students have further demonstrated their skills by winning several international championships in arbitration and mediation student competitions in recent years.

Visit website at [www.luc.edu/law/academics/centersinstitutesandprograms/disputeresolutionprogram](http://www.luc.edu/law/academics/centersinstitutesandprograms/disputeresolutionprogram)

**Mediation Council of Illinois (MCI)**

The Mediation Council of Illinois is a professional membership organization that provides the general public with information about family mediators throughout the state of Illinois. Those mediators who are listed on the MCI Referral Directory have met MCI’s membership requirements for education and training. While MCI does not evaluate the performance of individual Referral member family mediators, it does require Referral members to abide by the MCI Professional Standards of Practice for Mediators, including compliance with grievance procedures and an agreement to follow acts of discipline set forth by the Council. Referral members must also maintain their credentials, professional liability insurance, and satisfy MCI's annual continuing education requirements. Additionally, MCI provides its membership mentoring opportunities and guidance, as well as opportunities to confer with and receive advice from experienced practitioners.

Visit website at [www.mediationcouncilofillinois.org](http://www.mediationcouncilofillinois.org)

**Northwestern University Center on Negotiation, Mediation, and Restorative Justice**

Whether practicing transactional, criminal law, or litigation, much of a lawyer's time is spent negotiating with other lawyers, clients, or colleagues, and most cases are ultimately resolved through settlement and, increasingly, mediation. The Center on Negotiation and Mediation, one of Northwestern School of Law's Bluhm Clinic offerings, provides students with theoretical and practical experience in negotiation and mediation through a series of courses and workshops. The program also encourages students to understand themselves as negotiators through opportunities to explore the emotional component of negotiation and to practice mindful awareness.

Visit website at www.law.northwestern.edu/legalclinic/negotiations

**Northwestern University School of Professional Studies**

Northwestern University School of Professional Studies offers both Mediation Skills and Divorce Mediation Skills Training Programs with 40-hour certificates. Students may earn MCLE credits from Illinois and many other states, as well as IMHCA for the Divorce Mediation Training. Each program is taught by leading practitioners and features multiple student role-plays overseen by expert coaches.

Visit websites at sps.northwestern.edu/professional-development/mediation and sps.northwestern.edu/professional-development/divorce-mediation

**Resolution Systems Institute**

Resolution Systems Institute is a unique non-profit organization whose mission is to strengthen access to justice by enhancing court ADR systems. RSI helps court ADR programs function effectively while meeting the procedural justice needs of participants by working directly with state and federal courts in Illinois and throughout the nation to develop, monitor and evaluate quality court ADR programs. Our website houses RSI’s free Resource Center with information on thousands of resources, as well as original content and expert guidance.

Visit website at [www.AboutRSI.org](http://www.aboutrsi.org/)

**UIC John Marshall Law School Center for Advocacy & Dispute Resolution**

The JD Concentration in Trial Advocacy & Dispute Resolution provides degree candidates career distinction in litigation and dispute resolution by developing practical mediation and courtroom-ready skills. In addition to designated coursework, degree candidates seeking the JD Concentration in Trial Advocacy & Dispute Resolution will benefit from completing an approved clinic and/or externship (requiring a 711 license) that hones the candidate's practical courtroom experience.

Visit website at law.uic.edu/academics/jd/jd-concentrations/jd-conc-advocacy