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# CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the Alternative Dispute Resolution Section of The Florida Bar. I am delighted and honored to serve as the 2021-2022 Section Chair.

The mission for the Alternative Dispute Resolution Section is to enhance the dispute resolution process in Florida as well as the skills of dispute resolution professionals in this great State.

The dispute resolution process is enhanced when the Section promotes the benefits of dispute resolution as a collaborative undertaking versus the adversarial nature of litigation. Civility, ethics, and professionalism are positively impacted when parties work together to solve a problem. That is the essence of peacemaking.

Likewise, the skills of our members and dispute resolution professionals are enhanced when the Section remains active in producing excellent continuing legal education programs. The signature events for the Section include our separate and rotating mentoring academies for Mediation and Arbitration. Our Section remains incredibly active throughout the year in sponsoring CLE programs that address dispute resolution from almost every angle, whether it be ethics, rules and policies, strategies and tips, technology, or even health and wellness.

All of this good work would not be possible without the contributions of our members. Our Section thrives on the diverse ideas and energies of its membership. One priority for the Section this year



is outreach and that includes outreach to the Section's membership, the legal profession in general, law schools, and those underrepresented in the dispute resolution profession. We want and need all of our members to contribute when they can. Please consider lending your considerable talents to the Section. There are many leadership opportunities and the chance to make a real difference in the future of dispute resolution for Florida.

Every lawyer in Florida can and does benefit from dispute resolution. I would encourage everyone who is remotely interested in dispute resolution, negotiation, or wants to learn how to resolve disputes more effectively, to join the Alternative Dispute Resolution Section. I think you will find this Section's benefits and the great people you meet will be invaluable for your legal career.

I look forward to the great things the Alternative Dispute Resolution Section will do this upcoming year. I also look forward to meeting and working with you all. If you have ideas, suggestions, or want to contribute, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Less conflict. More resolution. Let's make that happen.

**Patrick Russell**

**Salmon & Dulberg Dispute Resolution**

**2021-2022 ADR Section Chair**

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Patrick Russell, 2021-2022 Chair  
Alternative Dispute Resolution Section of The Florida Bar

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