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Dear Clients,

Happy New Year! We hope you had an enjoyable holiday season with your family and friends!

ADR Options has had a busy end of 2015 and beginning of 2016.

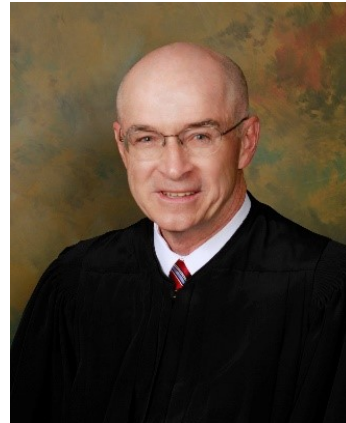
First, we are honored to have **Judge Bill Ford (Ret.)** of Lehigh County join our panel of neutrals. Judge Ford retired last month

after 24 years on the Court of Common Pleas. During

his time on the bench he presided over hundreds of jury and non-jury trials, settling countless matters. Prior to becoming a judge, he represented both

plaintiffs and defendants in his civil litigation practice. He has completed the Civil

Mediation Program of the National Judicial College and is available throughout Pennsylvania for mediation and arbitration matters.



Second, not only are our neutrals the best at mediation and arbitration, they share their expertise and knowledge with the legal world through regular publications. Judge Gafni continues with his bi-monthly ADR articles for *The Legal Intelligencer*. In October he published *Can Unconscionable Arb Provisions Be Waived and Severed?* In December his article was *Losing the Right to Arbitrate by Engaging in Litigation* and this month he published *Can Mandatory Arbitration Agreements Ever Be Stricken*. **Judge Stephanie Klein (Ret.)** is a contributing writer for *The Legal Intelligencer's* ADR supplement. She published *Mediating, Judging With Pro Se Parties: A Balancing Act*. In

December *The Legal Intelligencer's* online subscribers received an article titled [Upgrade your case from Mediation to Settlement](#) by **Phil Hof, Esq.** All of these articles are full of information to help you prepare yourself and your clients for resolving your case through arbitration and mediation. Alternative dispute resolution is very cost effective and time efficient.

Last but not least, ADR Options continues to garner excellence awards. In November we received the Silver Award as a [Best of 2015](#) ADR company by *The Legal Intelligencer* for the sixth consecutive year. The late Tom Rutter received the Bronze Award for Best Individual Mediator. In December, we were voted a [Best Law Firm](#) by *U.S. News and World Report* as a [Tier 1 provider](#) of arbitration and mediation for 2016. Three of our neutrals were also voted as Best Lawyers for arbitration and mediation: **Judge Abraham Gafni (Ret.)** was recognized as Best Lawyer for arbitration and mediation since 2005 and also Lawyer of the Year in 2015 for mediation and in 2013 for arbitration. **Judge Thomas Wallitsch (Ret.)** was awarded Best Lawyer status in Arbitration for 2016. The late Tom Rutter was recognized as a Best Lawyer from 2005-2016.

Finally, we want to wish you a happy and prosperous 2016.

Sincerely,

Mike and Maggy Carney and
the staff of ADR Options

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