**Happy Hour Northwest**

**5:30pm PDT Thursday April 6, 2023**

**(First Thursdays Every Month)**

Greetings,

Please join us on April 6, 2023, from 5:30- 7:00 PM (PDT) when our upcoming theme will be a 3 part ethical challenge or “What would you do?” As a “teaser” here’s the first part.

You were appointed as mediator by a dispute resolution company. It’s a four (4) party construction dispute that’s about to have its 5th anniversary. There is a scheduled arbitration set for next Monday and Tuesday but because the parties agreed to mediation you are meeting with them in the “eleventh hour” on the preceding Thursday and if necessary, Friday.

Thursday went well. Initially, as you might suspect the parties’ reiterated perspectives from the previous 5 years with no change. However, when asked how much money was at issue they could not answer because although they had poured energy and resources into the dispute no one had ever bothered to quantify it let alone agree on an amount in dispute and instead, they just continued to have too much fun arguing and countersuing! But that question got the ball rolling and by close of business on Thursday two of the parties tentatively agreed on an amount in dispute for at least their portion and reported being close to settling but not until the other two parties made at least as much progress. As mediator this is exactly what you had hoped for and your plan for Friday was now to “encourage” the outstanding two parties based on the momentum the tentative agreement the other two parties provided.

Although Friday started off very well and you can sense as well as see the light of a future settlement, at 11:00 a.m. the case administrator tells you that due to the arbitrator’s illness the arbitration originally scheduled for Monday and Tuesday will need to be rescheduled and the next available dates are months out. You are very concerned that because nature abhors a vacuum if the parties have this information, it may slow down or even kill the momentum of a potential settlement that you can almost taste. And the parties are talking about eating lunch together!

**Ethical Challenge Question #1: Should the parties be made aware of this information?**

This is an actual case scenario, and the mediator will be in attendance to answer any questions or fill in any gaps after the challenge questions have been discussed.

Want to know what the other two parts are? Then on April 6, 2023 at 5:30 PM grab your favorite beverage and/or snack, tune in and get ready for an adventure into the unknown. As always, this is a lighthearted event with like-minded ADR professionals (and maybe a few law students).

As always, the animating principles of Happy Hour Northwest:

* Relax and enjoy: This is time for dispute resolution practitioners to connect and exchange experiences with like-minded individuals.
* Hear from colleagues: Hot topics, current events, transforming experiences, within or without of DR practice.
* Everyone welcome: Drop by if you are an arbitrator, attorney, conflict coach, educator, mediator, or other DR-related practitioner.
* A safe place: Conversations will be constructive, respectful, and remain private among us.

We look forward to seeing you next week!

To get recurring monthly notices, download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZYlcO-ppjIuEtUJEXzvIa54lUiR6vw3HDE3/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGqpjwsG9yctBGGRpwQGo_CM-vxiFhbj7dotjrdGTZ6Y1aiOtdLAORpB4v4>

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82876189481?pwd=Q2Y3dmJMblo1bldkMXV0V3BtcUEvQT09>

**Happy Hour Northwest sponsored by**

**the WSBA DR Section Executive Committee**