

Greater Houston LERA Presents

"Virtual ADR from A to Z"

Weekly 5-part Video-conference Series

September 15 through October 14, 2020

Due to the pandemic, you haven't heard anything from your Greater Houston Chapter of the Labor and Employment Relations Association (LERA) in quite a while. Our Chapter in conjunction with LERA National is excited to announce that we will be presenting a five-part Zoom video conference series entitled "Virtual ADR from A to Z" on five consecutive Wednesdays at noon, beginning Wednesday, September 15 through October 14, 2020. There is NO COST to participate in these presentations, and you do not need to be a LERA member. Each weekly meeting will feature a video presentation on one of the following topics for about an hour. This will be followed by a discussion period to answer/discuss any questions or comments that might have arisen during the video. Each session will end no later than 1:30 PM:

- Topic 1. Zoom Arbitration: How it Works
Wednesday, September 16, 2020; 12:00 – 1:30 PM
- Topic 2. Mock Arbitration in the Zoom (Virtual) Setting
Wednesday, September 23, 2020; 12:00 – 1:30 PM
- Topic 3. Advocates' Remote Arbitration Strategy and Explanation of Tactics from Mock Arbitration
Wednesday, September 30, 2020; 12:00 – 1:30 PM
- Topic 4. The Ins and Outs of Virtual Mediation
Wednesday, October 7, 2020; 12:00 – 1:30 PM
- Topic 5. Ethics Round-table Discussion
Wednesday, October 14, 2020; 12:00 – 1:30 PM

To register for the above topics, please visit the Houston LERA website – Coming Events: <https://lerachapter.org/houston/coming-events>. If your name/email is listed in the LERA website database, you will need to log into the Houston LERA website before you can register, then go to Coming Events. If you have trouble logging in, try resetting your password using the "forgot password" link. If you still have trouble contact Mickey Brock at 281-732-6918. If you are not listed in the Houston LERA database, you may register using the links below under Program Details. While we hope that you will register and participate in all five sessions, you only need to register for one of the five topics and you will be considered to have registered for all. On successfully booking an event, you will receive a confirmation email with the common meeting link that will access all of the five presentations. You only need to import the

iCalendar (.ics) file once to your calendar, and all five topics will be saved to your calendar.

We are hoping that you will pass this invitation along to invite others in your office or friends who have an interest in labor relations, employee relations, human resources, alternative dispute resolution, or who are arbitrators, mediators, or advocates. If you are not already a Houston LERA member, we hope that you will consider joining.

• We are exploring Continuing Legal Education Credits (CLE's) for attorneys in the state of Texas. You will be hearing more about this in the coming weeks.

• Please note that the meeting link for these presentations should not be publicly posted or placed on social media, or other websites to avoid security breaches.

This program was originally developed, presented and co-sponsored by New Jersey LERA, the LERA National Chapter Advisory Council, the LERA Membership Committee, and the LERA Dispute Resolution Interest Section earlier this year. Some of our members participated in the initial showings and thought this was an excellent program.

With the pandemic seeming to be with us for what seems to be an extended time, the use of video conferencing in conducting remote, virtual alternative dispute resolution processes will be an important tool and competency that all arbitrators, mediators and advocates will need to respond to their clients' needs now and in the future. We hope that you will be able to join us for what will be a very interesting and informative fall 2020 event.

Sincerely,

Walter Darr
President
Greater Houston LERA Chapter

Emily Smith
Executive Director
LERA National

PROGRAM DETAILS

LERA Online Training Seminar

Virtual ADR from A to Z

This event was originally co-sponsored by New Jersey LERA, the LERA National Chapter Advisory Council, the LERA Membership Committee, and the LERA Dispute Resolution Interest Section

Moderators: Houston LERA Executive Board

Topic 1. Zoom Arbitration: How it Works

Wednesday, September 16, 2020; 12:00 – 1:30 PM

Info and Bookings: <https://lerachapter.org/houston/events/virtual-adr-from-a-to-z-topic-1/>

Speaker: Keith Greenberg, Arbitrator/Mediator

Keith will walk arbitrators, mediators, and advocates through how to setup, manage, and conduct an arbitration remotely using Zoom technology.

Topic 2. Mock Arbitration in the Zoom (Virtual) Setting

Wednesday, September 23, 2020; 12:00 – 1:30 PM

Info and Bookings: <https://lerachapter.org/houston/events/virtual-adr-from-a-to-z-topic-2/>

Mock Arbitration Participants:

- James LaRocca (Management Attorney)
- Brady Montalbano Connaughton (Union Attorney)
- Theo Cheng (Grievant)
- Keith Greenberg (Arbitrator/Mediator)

Arbitrator Greenberg will conduct a mock arbitration, during which our union and management attorneys will offer direct and cross examination of a grievant. The arbitration will explore challenges and issues to understand in a remote setting and address concerns of advocates including document presentation and more. Additionally, arbitrator Greenberg will demonstrate how to establish and communicate guidelines at the beginning of a remote arbitration process.

Topic 3. Advocates' Remote Arbitration Strategy and Explanation of Tactics from Mock Arbitration

Wednesday, September 30, 2020; 12:00 – 1:30 PM

Info and Bookings: <https://lerachapter.org/houston/events/virtual-adr-from-a-to-z-topic-3/>

Speakers:

- James LaRocca, Gibbons Law
- Brady Montalbano Connaughton, Cohen, Leder, Montalbano & Connaughton

Union and management attorneys will describe the approaches that were taken during the mock arbitration as well as provide their experience and insight as to when/how/why remote arbitration can be advantageous or appropriate.

Topic 4. The Ins and Outs of Virtual Mediation

Wednesday, October 7, 2020; 12:00 – 1:30 PM

Info and Bookings: <https://lerachapter.org/houston/events/virtual-adr-from-a-to-z-topic-4/>

Speaker: Theo Cheng, Arbitrator/Mediator

Mediator Cheng will discuss how to conduct a remote mediation, the manner in which it differs from an in-person mediation, the use of breakout rooms and other technological nuances unique to the remote mediation format.

Topic 5. Ethics Round-table Discussion

Wednesday, October 14, 2020; 12:00 – 1:30 PM

Info and Bookings: <https://lerachapter.org/houston/events/virtual-adr-from-a-to-z-topic-5/>

Speakers:

- James LaRocca, Gibbons Law
- Brady Montalbano Connaughton, Cohen, Leder, Montalbano & Connaughton
- Theo Cheng, Arbitrator/Mediator
- Keith Greenberg, Arbitrator/Mediator

The arbitrator, mediator, management and union attorney will join together for a panel discussion addressing concerning ethical challenges presented by the remote ADR format. They will also answer questions from the audience regarding ethical considerations and other issues that were demonstrated in the mock arbitration recording.

Zoom Link and Calendar Info

After you book a weekly topic in this series, you will receive an email with the heading "Booking Confirmed". It will contain:

- your booking confirmation
- a Zoom link to join the meeting, and
- a link to easily import an iCalendar (.ics) file to your calendar (the meeting date/time and zoom link).

Please *** note *** that the Zoom link will be recycled for each of the five topic areas. This one Zoom link will be all you need to join all five sessions (it will be the same link each week). We still ask that you separately book each weekly topic that you'd like to attend, so we have a good head count, but you will only need to import the iCalendar (.ics) file once to your calendar, and all five topics will be saved to your calendar. You can delete any week you do not wish to attend from your calendar individually.

If you register and your name and email are not in the LERA database, you will also receive a separate email containing your username and password to the LERA Houston website. Please allow at least an hour to receive this email, and please check your spam filters. You'll want to save this email for future use. You can re-set your password at any time, as well, using the link in this email, or the "forgot password" link on the website (where you would login). You can also ask to be deleted from the Houston LERA database at any time via a simple email to Mickey Brock - brockcm13@comcast.net.

Zoom Meeting Privacy

To keep our Zoom link and meeting safe and secure from Zoom bombing (that is the phenomenon of unknown persons entering a video conference meeting or webinar and doing and saying quite unpleasant things), **please do not share the link, do not post the link, do not put the link on your social media or any public space, physical or virtual**. Instead, please refer your colleagues to register at the Houston LERA website here <https://lerachapter.org/houston> under "coming events" tab. It is free for all to attend, Houston LERA members and non-members alike, though we welcome you to join Houston LERA if you have not already!