

Department of the Interior
Alternative Dispute Resolution Conference

May 18, 2011

ARBITRATION: Our presenters will discuss innovative techniques to avoid costly litigation and streamline commercial arbitrations.

Moderator: Hon. James Warren, (Ret.), JAMS

Panelists:

- Jim Quadra, Calvo, Fisher & Jacob
- Niley Dorit, Dorit Law Firm
- Cesar Alegria, Legal Department, PG&E Counsel

Topics to be discussed include:

- Why arbitrate versus litigate? How does arbitration differ from mediation? What types of cases are suited for arbitration?
- How can in-house and outside counsel create a customized process to fit each particular case? How do you define the process when drafting arbitration clauses in contracts?
- Selecting appropriate rules/venues?
- What factors should be considered during selection of the arbitrator(s)? Sole arbitrator versus three-person panel of arbitrators?
- The Preliminary Hearing – what are the important items to discuss in order to set the stage for an efficient process?
- What are some effective methods for streamlining discovery in arbitration?
- What are effective methods for efficient hearing process?