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**Harrie Samaras Presents on Findings of CPR Patent Mediation Task Force**

West Chester, Pa. – At the ABA Intellectual Property Law Section’s annual meeting on April 5, 2013, Harrie Samaras moderated a panel discussion including findings from the Patent Mediation Task Force convened by the International Institute of Conflict Prevention and Resolutions (CPR).

In 2010, CPR formed the Task Force in response to patent settlement rates, which demonstrated that mediation continued to be underutilized in patent disputes. The Task Force’s main objective was to analyze methods and solutions for improving the use and efficiency of mediation

To achieve their goal, the Task Force formed three subcommittees to examine mediation best practices from various stakeholder perspectives including: in house-counsel; outside counsel; mediators; and judges. Each subcommittee focused on one of three topics: pre-mediation, mediation, and unique issues in patent cases. They organized focus group meetings comprised of stakeholders and used survey tools to gather facts about their respective topics. The subcommittees consolidated their findings into a best practices protocol that was then vetted by in-house counsel, attorneys, and leading ADR practitioners. See <http://www.cpradr.org/Committees/IndustryCommittees/PatentMediationTaskForce.aspx>.

Harrie chaired the subcommittee on pre-mediation issues. In addition to providing findings from her work, Harrie moderated a discussion from other Task Force members, namely CPR’s CEO Kathy Bryan, Kevin Casey (Chair, Mediation Subcommittee) and John Delehanty (Chair, Unique Issues), regarding their findings.

**About the ADR & Law Office of Harrie Samaras, LLC**

The ADR and Law Office of Harrie Samaras specializes in helping parties resolve disputes, both U.S. and international. The ADR services that the firm provides include Arbitration, Mediation, Early Neutral Evaluation, ADR Counseling and case evaluation. More information about the firm can be found at [www.harriesamaras.com](http://www.harriesamaras.com).