

ABA Section of Business Law

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Joint Task Force on ADR in Commercial Finance Transactions

Thomas J. Welsh, Chair

The leadership of the Subcommittee is now planning for a series of joint meetings of the Task Force and the DRS Subcommittee, including invited experts and other knowledgeable guests (such as representatives of the College of Commercial Finance Lawyers and College of Commercial Arbitrators), to discuss these topics. A major area of discussion will involve consideration of the discussion draft of the Model Supplementary Rules, both to spark discussion of the issues and concerns of the various constituencies and to determine whether a final set of Model Supplementary Rules can and should be prepared and published for the benefit of attorney practitioners and the commercial finance industry. The first joint meeting of the Subcommittee and the BLS Task Force is now being scheduled for **March 17, 2009 at the offices of the AAA, at 1633 Broadway, 10th Floor, New York, New York 10019-6708.** Notices for this meeting have been sent to the leadership of the affected committees of the Business Law Section interested parties and Subcommittee and BLS Task Force members.

At the first joint meeting we intend to discuss these issues and set a schedule for additional meetings to complete our discussions and a final report. Our goal will be to complete a joint report of the Task Force and the DRS Subcommittee at or prior to the ABA Annual Meeting in August of 2009. We will also discuss the need to hold additional informational meetings or input sessions in several regions in the United States, either before or after the completion of the final report, and recommended follow-up actions that the Task Force, the DRS Subcommittee and the two ABA Sections should take to continue this work.

Finally, we anticipate that the results of these meetings and additional ‘colloquium’ papers on this topic will be submitted to the ABA Press for publication as a product of the joint committees and the College of Commercial Finance Lawyers.