



**Association for
Conflict Resolution**
Greater New York Chapter

2015 BOARD ELECTIONS

*The following are STANDING FOR ELECTION for 2014-15. Short biographies for these candidates and a proxy statement follow. Please complete the enclosed Proxy Statement and return **before the April 9, 2015 Annual Meeting** to alexandra.dosman@acrgny.org.*

The following are the Nominating Committee's candidates for election in 2015-2016. This is the slate of potential Directors up for election:

Denise Shaw, President
Elizabeth Clemants, Immediate Past President
Alexandra Dosman, President-Elect
James Rhodes, Vice-President, Strategic Planning
James Berger, Director at Large
Eric Goldman, City and Development Committees Chair
Glen Parker, Annual Conference Committee

The following Board Members continue their terms (they are not up for reelection this year):

Dana Berman, Program Committee Chair
Todd Drucker, Annual Conference Committee
Lisa Grace Cohen, Treasurer
Charles Newman, Director at Large
Jeff Thompson, Director at Large
Frank J. Scardilli, Esq., Honorary Life Time Board Member

CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES

Denise Shaw, President

Denise Shaw is a certified mediator, arbitrator and attorney. Actively involved with The Peace Institute (formerly Safe Horizon), one of the largest and most respected mediation providers in New York City, she has significant conflict resolution experience in varied contexts.

Serving on the organization's Mediation Advisory Board, she is also a mentor in its Apprenticeship program and has developed a specialty in the mediation of family issues and conflicts – youth, special education including Divorce, Custody and Visitation, JD, PINS.

In the course of her practice she handles a range of commercial as well as family disputes, with the complexity of the matters including multiple parties, gender, cultural, racial issues and language barriers. Denise mediates facilitatively, supporting and guiding the conversation with a view to maximize the self-determination of the parties, manages the mediation process effectively and creatively with sensitive control over emotional participants and knows how to get the parties beyond impasse.

She has received substantial alternative dispute resolution trainings under the aegis of the New York State Unified Court System, the New York State Dispute Resolution Association, and the ABA Dispute Resolution Section. She is also an Arbitrator for the NY State, Part 137, Attorney-Client Fee Dispute Program.

Denise is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and is a member of the New York and Pennsylvania bars. She is President of the Shaw Group, which provides conflict resolution services for individuals, families and businesses. As a lawyer and entrepreneur she heads New York Residential Real Estate a boutique real estate brokerage firm specializing in Harlem townhouses.

Elizabeth Clemants, Immediate Past President

Elizabeth has been working in the field of alternative dispute resolution since 1997 and is the founder of Planning Change, Small Business Arbitration Center, and Hidden Water. As Senior Director of the Manhattan Mediation Center (1998-2004), Elizabeth helped start the Manhattan Civil Court mediation Program, as well as managed the Lemon Law Arbitration Program.

She was certified as a New York State Unified Court System mediation trainer in 2000, and continues to train mediators across the state in basic mediation training, commercial division and small business mediation and general conflict resolution skills for both experienced mediators as well as other professionals. Elizabeth has served as an adjunct professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, Cardozo Law School, Fordham Law School, and the New School for Social Research. She currently runs her own boutique mediation and conflict resolution training program: Planning Change. Elizabeth also works as a private mediator in cases ranging from commercial cases to family. She is currently the President of the Association for Conflict Resolution for Greater New York and has served on the board since 2007.

Alexandra Dosman, President-Elect

Alexandra Dosman is the first Executive Director of the New York International Arbitration Center (“NYIAC”). NYIAC is a non-profit organization that provides educational programming, operates world-class hearing facilities, and promotes the conduct of international arbitration in New York.

Prior to joining NYIAC in May 2013, Ms. Dosman practiced litigation and arbitration at Shearman & Sterling LLP for seven years, where she had a leading role in international

commercial and investment treaty arbitration cases. Ms. Dosman was educated at McGill University in Montreal and at the University of Toronto. She is bilingual English/French.

James Rhodes, Vice-President, Strategic Planning

Jim Rhodes is an attorney admitted to practice in the States of New York and Texas. An attorney, arbitrator and mediator with extensive international and domestic experience, as well as experience as a business executive and house counsel, he has served as an attorney, arbitrator or mediator in many commercial and investment disputes, particularly in the international sector.

Jim specializes in high-conflict, complex disputes. In this regard, he has served as Chairman, co-panelist or sole arbitrator in over 55 commercial, investment and securities arbitrations conducted under the auspices of various institutions, and is on the panel of arbitrators for the ICC, the AAA, the ICDR, IICPR, FedArb, Singapore International Arbitration Centre, FINRA and the EDNY.

In addition, he has served as mediator in over 75 commercial disputes, and is on the mediator panels for the AAA, ICDR, FINRA, EDNY, SDNY, the Commercial Division ADR Program of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, New York County, and for Civil, General Equity and Probate Cases, New Jersey Courts.

Jim also has over 40 years experience as counsel in dispute resolution management, advising corporate and individual clients how to resolve business disputes wisely and efficiently, avoiding the hemorrhaging of money and the sense of feeling out of control in a litigation system.

He is a former partner with Battle Fowler (now Paul Hastings LLP) and Coudert Brothers. Earlier in his career, he was an associate at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, and an attorney with the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

In addition to his legal career, Jim has a business background. He served as counsel and principal in several investment firms involved in the acquisition and disposition of commercial real estate properties and privately-held companies. He is Chairman of S. Gumpert Co. of Canada, Ltd., a privately-held, Canadian food company. From 1989 to 1992, Jim was President and General Counsel of Stanwich Financial Services, Inc., which was involved in the acquisition of portfolio assets from financial institutions.

He has extensive board experience, both in the commercial and not-for-profit areas, and is either currently serving, or has served in the past, on eight boards.

James Berger, Director at Large

James Berger is a partner at King & Spalding LLP. He litigates complex commercial disputes before state and federal courts and arbitral tribunals, with a focus on cross-border disputes and matters involving state-owned enterprises and sovereigns. He has significant expertise in matters arising under the Convention on Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards, the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act, and other statutes having particular application in international disputes.

Prior to joining Paul Hastings, Mr. Berger served as counsel and acting deputy director of the New York City Mayor's Office of City Legislative Affairs, where he was the legal advisor to the Mayor's chief local legislative representative. Upon his graduation from law school, Mr. Berger served as law clerk to the Honorable W. Thomas Rosemond, Jr. of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

Mr. Berger is admitted to practice in New York and the District of Columbia. He is a member of the bars of the United States Supreme Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and the United States District Courts for the District of Columbia and the Southern, Eastern, and Western Districts of New York. He is a member of the Litigation and International Law Sections of the American Bar Association, and currently serves as Chairman of the ABA's Subcommittee on Enforcement of Foreign Judgments. He is also a member of the International Law Committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, where he serves as Chairman of the International Arbitration Subcommittee.

Mr. Berger is a 1993 graduate of Fordham University School of Law, where he served as Writing and Research Editor of the Fordham Urban Law Journal. He received a B.A. in 1989 from George Washington University. Prior to becoming an attorney, Mr. Berger was a city planner and project manager for the Office of Development of the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development.

Eric Goldman, City and Development Committees Chair

Eric Goldman is a lawyer, mediator and coach serving creative clients with innovative projects and products. He has more than 20 years' experience in the entertainment industry. He specializes in theatre matters but also has extensive experience in project financing, I also practice in the film, television, music, music publishing, technology and new media fields. He is also a professionally trained mediator and coach.

Glen Parker, Annual Conference Committee

As the Civil Court Coordinator for Manhattan at New York Peace Institute, Glen oversees NYPI's delivery of services in the Civil and Small Claims courts of Lower Manhattan and Harlem. Glen is also the Lemon Law Arbitration Coordinator for New York County.

In addition to mediating in the courts, Glen practices divorce mediation, group facilitation and community conferencing. He also has a special interest in Victim Offender Mediation and has mediated for the Criminal Court Mediation Program in Brooklyn.

Since becoming a mediator in 2009, Glen has been involved in numerous projects in the field of ADR, including assisting the New York State Division of Human Rights to develop a mediation program for their cases and being a part of the Mediation Working Group at Occupy Wall Street.

Glen teaches and trains in conflict resolution and has served as a coach and mentor to mediation students at Columbia Law School, Brooklyn Law School, Cardozo School of Law, and New York Peace Institute. He is currently an adjunct professor at Cardozo School of Law.

Glen received his B.A. in Philosophy at SUNY Purchase and his J.D. and LL.M. (Dispute Resolution and Advocacy) at Cardozo School of Law. He is also trained as a life coach with Leadership That Works.

INSTRUCTIONS

If you expect that you will **not** be able to attend the Annual Meeting, please fill in this form (“Proxy Statement”) and send a PDF (or copy and paste the text) to alexandra.dosman@acrgny.org **before** the April 9, 2015 ACR-GNY Annual Meeting.

If you expect to attend the Annual Meeting, you will vote by ballot during the meeting.

If you have any questions, please call ACR-GNY at (646) 580-9560 or email the Secretary at alexandra.dosman@acrgny.org.

**ACR-GNY ANNUAL MEETING 2015
ELECTIONS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

PROXY STATEMENT

To elect the entire slate listed on page 1 above, mark an X here: _____

Otherwise, indicate below Yes or No for individual candidates:

Denise Shaw , President	Yes/No
Elizabeth Clemants , Immediate Past President	Yes/No
Alexandra Dosman , President-Elect	Yes/No
James Rhodes, Esq. , Vice-President, Strategic Planning	Yes/No
James Berger, Esq. , Director at Large	Yes/No
Eric Goldman , Director at Large	Yes/No
Glen Parker , Director at Large	Yes/No

I, _____ (Member Name), being a current member of ACRGNY, submit my vote as indicated above. I also appoint ACR-GNY Secretary Alexandra Dosman to vote on my behalf should I not be present to vote in person at the Annual Meeting on April 9, 2015 or at any adjournment thereof. I understand that I may vote in person and this form will be revoked upon my attendance at the Annual Meeting.