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AAA® Welcomes Aaron Schmidt as VP of Labor, Employment and Elections in New Cleveland Office

15-Year ADR Industry Veteran was Previously Vice Chairman of Ohio's State Employment Relations Board

NEW YORK, N.Y.—November 6, 2019—The American Arbitration Association® (AAA®) announces that Aaron Schmidt has joined the organization as Vice President of the Labor, Employment and Elections Division. Mr. Schmidt, who recently served as Vice Chairman of Ohio's State Employment Relations Board, is based in the AAA's new office in Cleveland.

"Aaron has accumulated a great deal of experience bringing labor and employment disputes across Ohio to an equitable conclusion through arbitration and mediation," said **Christine Newhall, Senior Vice President of the AAA-ICDR's Labor, Employment, and Elections Division**. "His respect and appreciation for alternative dispute resolution, combined with his intensive expertise in state labor and employment law, make him an ideal addition to our office in Cleveland. We look forward to helping more parties in Ohio resolve their disputes in a cost-effective, efficient, and transparent manner."

Mr. Schmidt has 15 years of legal and management experience, with a primary focus on labor law, employment law, and alternative dispute resolution (ADR). He was appointed Vice Chairman of Ohio's State Employment Relations Board, which administers employee relations for over 2,700 employers and 328,000 employees, in 2014. During his tenure, he worked with fact-finders and mediators to resolve disputes, investigated and adjudicated charges of unfair labor practices, and recruited and managed a roster of neutrals. He also administered and conducted representation elections.

Prior to his appointment to the State Employment Relations Board, Mr. Schmidt served as Assistant General Counsel and Deputy Director of the Ohio Lottery Commission. He has also served as a Contract Attorney in the Cleveland headquarters of international law firm Squire Patton Boggs, where he helped manage complex, high-profile litigation cases.

Mr. Schmidt is a member of the American Bar Association's Dispute Resolution and Labor & Employment Law sections, the Ohio State Bar Association's Labor & Employment Law section, the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association's ADR and Labor & Employment Law sections, as well as the Northeast Ohio and Central Ohio chapters of the Labor and Employment Relations Association (LERA). He has published many articles about ADR in the *Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Journal* and other industry publications.



Mr. Schmidt received his J.D. from the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. He also graduated from The Ohio State University with a B.A. in English.

About the American Arbitration Association

The not-for-profit American Arbitration Association (AAA) is the leading provider of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) services for parties in commercial disputes, having administered approximately 5.6 million ADR cases since its founding in 1926. With 26 offices in the United States, in addition to Mexico, Singapore, and Bahrain, the AAA provides organizations of all sizes in virtually every industry with ADR services and products. For more information, visit www.adr.org.

About the International Centre for Dispute Resolution

The International Centre for Dispute Resolution® (ICDR®) is the international division of the AAA and the largest international provider of dispute resolution services. Established in 1996, the ICDR serves parties from over 99 countries with multilingual staff experienced in international dispute resolution proceedings. 993 international cases were filed with the ICDR in 2018, which offers parties a roster of over 725 arbitrators and mediators. For more information, visit www.icdr.org.

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