Lainey Feingold and the JAMS Foundation Selected to Receive ABA Lawyer as Problem Solver Awards

The ABA Section of Dispute Resolution will present 2017 Lawyer as Problem Solver Awards to Lainey Feingold (individual recipient) and the JAMS Foundation (institutional recipient).

The individual recipient, Lainey Feingold, is a U.S. disability rights lawyer, author, and speaker who represents the blind community on technology, digital, and information access issues. She is widely recognized for negotiating landmark accessibility agreements without lawsuits using a dispute resolution process she pioneered known as Structured Negotiation. In 2016 the American Bar Association published Lainey’s book, *Structured Negotiation, A Winning Alternative to Lawsuits*.

Structured Negotiation is a process that focuses on solution and takes place outside of litigation, without a complaint on file. It replaces depositions with real conversation; avoids expert battles by focusing on joint experts and the expertise of the parties. Structured Negotiation fosters relationships and avoids the conflict and expense that too often accompany filed cases. As a disability rights lawyer practicing Structured Negotiation, Lainey has represented blind individuals and their organizations for two decades to resolve legal claims for accessible websites, talking ATMs, talking prescription labels, braille information, and accessible health care services. She and her co-counsel Linda Dardarian, of the Oakland civil rights firm Goldstein, Borgen, Dardarian & Ho, have negotiated agreements on these issues with some of the largest organizations in the country, including Walmart, Bank of America, the City and County of San Francisco, CVS, and Anthem, Inc.


The institutional award recipient, the JAMS Foundation, is a grant-making foundation that encourages the use of alternative dispute resolution, supports education at all levels about collaborative processes for resolving differences, promotes innovation in conflict resolution, and advances the settlement of conflict worldwide. The Foundation is funded entirely by contributions from JAMS, JAMS Neutrals and JAMS employee Associates. More than 250 JAMS Principal Benefactors (panelists & staff) donate a percentage of their monthly income to support the Foundation's work.

The JAMS Foundation was initially created to provide support to the New York Bar Association in offering pro bono mediation and related services for 9/11 victims and their families. Since 2001, the Foundation has made over 200 grants to more than 100 non-profit organizations, providing greater than $6 million to support ADR-related initiatives throughout the U.S. and around the world. The Foundation has funded a broad range of conflict prevention initiatives and dispute resolution programs in a wide variety of settings. Its current funding priorities include Community Mediation, Student and Youth Initiatives, Police-Community Relations, and the Weinstein JAMS International Fellowship Program. In addition, the JAMS Foundation presents the Warren Knight Award at the Section’s annual conference.

The Foundation has employed the collective expertise and resources of JAMS to make a significant impact and positive influence on the development of dispute resolution for the public good.
The ABA Lawyer as Problem Solver Awards will be presented at the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution at the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution Awards reception on Friday, April 21st, in conjunction with the Section of Dispute Resolution Spring Conference.

The awards reception is a ticketed event. For tickets and more information about the Spring Conference and the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution Awards Reception, go to ambar.org/spring2017.