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THE NEUTRAL SOLUTION OFFERS UNIQUE COMMUNITY FOR MEDIATORS

January 15, 2019, Birmingham, Alabama—A group of highly qualified mediators and arbitrators has come together to form The Neutral Solution, launching today. Located in downtown Birmingham, The Neutral Solution brings together a community of professional mediators and arbitrators, known as “neutrals,” from a variety of backgrounds and experience in order to give them increased opportunities from more places than they might be able to achieve on their own.

In addition, mediation professionals who join the group receive marketing and public relations strategies from a local marketing firm, regular training and continued education opportunities, networking opportunities with other members of The Neutral Solution community, assistance with case management and access to group insurance. The Neutral Solution also offers a variety of mediation spaces at their First Avenue North location for its members.

The Neutral Solution partners include [Elam P. Holley, Jr.](#), [Allen Schreiber](#), [Thomas J. Skinner IV](#) and [Mark Bond](#).

Holley is the former president and chief executive officer of The Peoples Bank and Trust Company in Selma, Ala. In 2007, along with several other investors, Holley started SouthCity Bank, which eventually became First Partners Bank based in Birmingham. After the bank’s merger with Progress Bank, Holley is a member of the Progress Bank Board of Directors. He is licensed to practice law in the state of Alabama and is a trained mediator specializing in financial and banking cases.

“What we are doing here is something entirely different,” Holley said. “Our goal is to provide a one-stop shop of support for the mediation and arbitration community.

Schreiber is a member of the American College of Civil Trial Mediators and a founding member of the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals. He was named Best Lawyers® of the Year/Mediation in 2017 and is licensed to practice law in both Alabama and Virginia and has mediated more than 2,500 disputes involving a wide variety of complex and multi-party cases. He has served as a mediator and arbitrator in commercial, products, personal injury, fraud, employment, professional liability, wage and hour, wrongful death, divorce, malpractice and nursing home disputes.

“As a long-time mediator, I am very excited to be part of this team at The Neutral Solution,” Schreiber said. “To have the support of others in our field is invaluable and we are excited about what we are offering mediators and arbitrators.”

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Skinner received his J.D. from the Cumberland School of Law at Samford University in 1993 and is also a licensed real estate broker. He currently serves as the Chief of Military Justice for the 167th Theater Sustainment Command as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Alabama National Guard. Skinner's primary practice focuses are in the areas of real estate litigation and title insurance law, business law and estates and trusts. He is admitted in the state of Alabama, all Federal Courts in Alabama, the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces and the Supreme Court of the United States.

"We chose The Neutral Solution name because it describes what we do so well," Skinner said. "Just like water, a neutral solution is neither acidic nor basic. It is perfectly neutral, balanced and fair—exactly what we are trying to build here as mediators."

Mark Bond received his J.D. from the University of Alabama School of Law. In 1990, he formed the law firm of Bond & Botes to provide high quality consumer bankruptcy services to the general public. He currently is the owner of 17 Bedzzz Express locations in Alabama.

"I see mediation as a future trend," Bond said. "Litigation is so expensive, time-consuming and stressful for everyone involved in it. Because mediation allows the parties involved to be part of the solution, they are part of the decision-making process."

For more information on The Neutral Solution, please visit their website at www.theneutralsolution.com.

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