

Ana Cristina Maldonado

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Mediator / Arbitrator / Attorney / Trainer / Speaker

Education

B.A. (*magna cum laude*) | Amherst College

M.Sc. | Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution – George Mason University

Juris Doctor (*cum laude*) | St. Thomas University School of Law

Honors: *Intercultural Human Rights Law Review, Merit Scholarship and Dean's List (all semesters), Book Award for Alternative Dispute Resolution, Appellate Advocacy and Wills and Trusts.*

Selected Licenses & Certifications

- Member, Florida Bar Association
- Florida Supreme Court Certified Mediator (County, Circuit Civil, Dependency & Family)
- Florida Qualified Arbitrator
- Panelist, National Association of Distinguished Neutrals (NADN)

Most Recent Career Experience

Upchurch Watson White & Max 2019 – Present
[Mediator and Arbitrator](#) (See "[Meet our Mediator](#)," an additional firm profile.)

- Panel member of nation-wide Tier 1 firm ranked "Best Law Firm" by U.S. News in 2022.

Maldonado Mediation and Law Inc. 2016 – Present
President

- Established and maintained solo practice specializing in family and first party mediation.

Florida Dispute Resolution Center (DRC)-Approved Mediation Trainer 2015 – Present
Primary Trainer & Associate Trainer

- Taught over 30 courses of the Florida Supreme Court-required curriculum to new mediators during the 40-hour certification class, in-person and on-line. Pioneered one of the first Zoom training courses in April 2020.

15th Judicial Circuit Alternative Dispute Resolution Department 2013 – 2016
Staff Mediator, Family & Dependency

- Assisted both *pro se* and represented participants with joint income not exceeding \$100,000 per year, mediating juvenile dependency and family law matters involving divorce, paternity, child support, and post-judgment modification.

Judicial Circuit Foreclosure Mediation Programs 2010 – 2013
Foreclosure Mediator

- Conducted foreclosure mediations with the Foreclosure Programs of the 11th, 15th, 17th and 19th Circuits.

Additional Career Experience

Solo Attorney, Maldonado Law, P.A.
Associate Attorney, Harrington Law Associates, PLLC
Consultant and Grant Writer, various clients
Senior Analyst, Abt Associates Inc.

Sample Continuing Education Seminars

- [Multilingual Mediation: Scenarios and Solutions](#) (ABA Mediation Rules), Will Work For Food
- Are We There Yet? The Path Forward on Bias Elimination and Greater Diversity in ADR, Florida Bar ADR Section
- [Multilingual Mediation: Scenarios and Solutions](#), (Florida Rules) Florida Dispute Resolution Center 2021 Conference
- [Recognizing and Dealing with Cognitive Biases in Negotiation](#) (with Howard Marsee, UWWM)
- [The Nuts and Bolts of Zoom](#), Florida Dispute Resolution Center 2020 Conference

Sample Publications

- *Legal dissent: Constitutional proposals for "cambio" in Cuba*. March 2010. [Research in Social Movements](#), 30:141-169.
- With Megan Moschell. [Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in ADR and Law: A Capital "J" for Justice Issue](#). Summer 2022. [The Common Ground](#), publication of The ADR Section of The Florida Bar.

Community Involvement

- Mediator Ethics Advisory Committee (Appointed by Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court)
- The Florida Bar Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Section (<https://flabaradr.com/>)
 - Chair-Elect
 - Founding Chair of Justice, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee
 - Co-editor of The Common Ground, Section Newsletter
 - Past Treasurer
 - Past Secretary
 - Principal Organizer for "Connecting the Dots: A Gathering of ADR Law Professors, Students and Attorneys," attended by students and professors from NOVA, UF, FSU, FIU, UM, FAMU, Ave Maria, Barry, Thos. Cooley and Florida Coastal.
 - Most Energetic Member Award (2020)
- Florida Bar Family Section, ADR Committee
- Palm Beach County Bar Association, ADR Committee
- Member, Florida Academy of Collaborative Professionals (FACP)
- American Bar Association, ADR Committee, Regional Co-Chair, Women in Dispute Resolution (WIDR)
- American Bar Association, ADR Committee, Co-Chair, Ethics Committee
- Former Member, Craig S. Barnard American Inns of Court
- Member, Palm Beach County Hispanic Bar Association