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**CPR INSTITUTE PRESENTS FIRST-EVER AWARD FOR
OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO DIVERSITY IN ADR
TO MARVIN E. JOHNSON**

NEW YORK, NY, January 21, 2009 – The International Institute for Conflict Prevention & Resolution (CPR Institute) – a membership-based, nonprofit alliance of global corporations, law firms, scholars, and public institutions dedicated to the principles of commercial conflict prevention and alternative dispute resolution – presented the organization’s first -ever “Award for Outstanding Contribution to Diversity in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)” to Marvin E. Johnson.

CPR Institute’s National Task Force on Diversity created the Award to recognize a person who has contributed significantly to diversity in the alternative dispute resolution field by providing access to or creating opportunities to people who have historically been excluded from active and meaningful participation in ADR including, but not limited to, women, minorities and/or people of color.

According to Kathleen Bryan, President and CEO of the CPR Institute, “Marvin Johnson has shown leadership and demonstrated extraordinary commitment to supporting, mentoring, training, and leading others to promote the use of diverse mediators and arbitrators.”

Paramount among his many achievements is Johnson’s founding of the Center for Alternative Dispute Resolution in Greenbelt, Maryland. Focusing primarily on practical application of ADR principles, the Center aims to promote and provide education and comprehensive approaches to dispute resolution that constructively serve the needs of a culturally diverse society. A diverse

platform of dispute resolution providers, as showcased at the Center's annual conference, inspires women and people of color to pursue a profession in ADR.

Currently, Johnson is a JAMS panelist and on CPR Institute's Panels of Distinguished Neutrals. He was also recently appointed to the ABA Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession.

Upon receiving the award, Johnson commented, "I am extremely honored to have been chosen as the first recipient of this important Award. It is especially gratifying to be recognized by CPR for contributing to such an important part of the ADR field."

Previously, Johnson served as Chairman of the Diversity Committee of the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution. The Diversity Committee raises the awareness of diversity in the ADR field and explores proactive solutions to eliminating employment barriers faced by ADR professionals of minority groups. He also played an instrumental role in organizing and directing ACCESS ADR – an initiative to increase the representation of ADR professionals from ethnic and racial minority groups. ACCESS ADR achieves this objective by first indentifying mediators from various ethnic and racial groups qualified to handle high-stakes/complex mediations and then exposing the users of ADR services to the selected mediators. In addition, Johnson actively helped in the organization of The Mediators of Color Alliance (MOCA) – a formal network of mediators of color formed to help support and advance their interested in the ADR field. MOCA acts as a vehicle through which mediators of color can develop relationships and role models, discuss issues, and enhance their ADR opportunities.

The award was presented on Thursday, January 15 at the CPR Annual Meeting in New York.

About CPR Institute

CPR Institute provides thought leadership and innovation as the global resource for conflict management and resolution of complex business-related disputes. Its wealth of intellectual property and published material has educated and motivated General Counsel and their law firms around the world toward an increased reliance on alternative forms of dispute resolution rather than litigation. CPR Institute's membership is comprised of general counsel and senior lawyers of Fortune 1,000 organizations, partners in the top law firms around the world, as well as leading judges, government officials, neutrals, and academics. Its proprietary panel of esteemed arbitrators and mediators has provided resolutions in thousands of cases, with billions of dollars at issue, worldwide. For more information, please visit www.cpradr.org.

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