

**STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING: THE ROLE OF THE ARBITRATOR**

The undersigned parties acknowledge that Mr./Ms. \_\_\_\_\_ has been assigned to arbitrate the case named below. The arbitrator shall hear all parties and, within 15 days after the hearing file an arbitration award with Multi-Door and all parties.

The arbitrator will not act as an attorney or advocate for any party, and has conducted a conflicts check to be sure that neither s/he nor her/his firm represents any party to the arbitration or any party whose interests are adverse to the parties in arbitration.

Other than issuing an award, the arbitrator will not testify about anything said during the arbitration hearing, nor about any evidence presented, nor offer any other information to anyone about the case. The parties agree not to subpoena the arbitrator or any documents submitted to the arbitrator.

*Pro se* parties have a right to counsel.

Unless the parties have entered into binding arbitration, any party may file a demand for *\*trial de novo*; with the Multi-Door Division within 15 days after the arbitration award is filed.

*\*(trial de novo* returns the case to the trial calendar)

_____	_____
<b>Plaintiff(s)</b>	<b>Defendant(s)</b>
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
<b>Arbitrator</b>	<b>Date</b>

**Case Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Case Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

Please return form to: **Civil Mediation & Arbitration Program Officer**  
**D.C. Superior Court**  
**410 E Street, N.W., Suite 2900**  
**Washington, D.C. 20001**