

PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHICAGO PICKS LOCAL ARBITRATOR

(Thursday, June 19, 2003, Meriden, CT) The Chicago International Dispute Resolution Association (CIDRA) (<http://www.cidra.org>) announced Houston Putnam Lowry of the Brown & Welsh, P.C. law firm (<http://BrownWelsh.com>) in Meriden, Connecticut joined their panel of international arbitrators. Lowry is the first arbitrator on their panel from Connecticut.

According to Lowry, "International trade is very important to our economy, which means resolving impediments to trade – commercial disputes – must be done promptly and economically." Arbitration awards are enforceable in more than 100 countries that belong to the New York arbitration convention. Judgments issued by local courts are not.

Brown & Welsh has a national reputation in business law (domestic and international) and related litigation, arbitration and mediation, including contracts, Uniform Commercial Code (sale of goods, promissory notes, electronic transfer of funds, letters of credit and security interests), bankruptcy, and computer law (including domain name disputes and identity theft).

CIDRA was established in 1997 as a forum devoted to the resolution of private international business disputes. It provides a neutral, private setting for arbitration and mediation. CIDRA maintains a roster of qualified attorneys and experts ready to serve on arbitration panels and as mediators and fact-finders. CIDRA announced today an alliance with the Polish Arbitration Association of Warsaw, Poland.