



Tillman Case Could Undermine Arbitration

06.01.2008

Business NC Law Journal 2008

Article

06.01.2008

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North Carolina has a strong tradition of encouraging pretrial resolution of civil disputes. For more than 20 years, it has been at the forefront of a national movement to offer effective, satisfactory dispute-resolution alternatives. They now exist in all trial courts within the state, providing parties with an array of opportunities to manage disputes. Mediation, a process by which a third party helps negotiate a settlement, and arbitration, a process by which a third party issues a decision on the merits of the dispute, are the most popular forms. They have been embraced widely in the legal and business communities, resulting in a more efficient and cheaper dispute-resolution process.

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Related People

- M. Keith Kapp ? 919.981.4024 ? kkapp@williamsmullen.com