

Dispute Resolution

Success in Neutral, Impartial Mediation & Arbitration for More Than 50 Years

Organization

BBB National Programs is where businesses turn to enhance consumer trust and consumers are heard.

BBB National Programs is a non-profit organization that develops and delivers third-party industry self-regulation and dispute resolution programs that create a fairer playing field for businesses and a better experience for consumers in the marketplace. Across more than a dozen unique and well-respected programs, we set adoptable standards that businesses use to navigate their industry landscape. Our expert staff monitor and enforce those standards and execute seamless dispute resolution procedures between businesses or with their consumers.

BBB National Programs tracks emerging marketplace issues and, as a result, our portfolio continues to adapt and expand, creating new initiatives that respond to the needs of industry and help maintain consumer trust in a rapidly changing digital environment.



Customized Dispute Resolution

BBB National Programs has decades of experience developing and administering customized dispute resolution programs that meet the needs of businesses and their customers. We work with businesses to develop mediation and arbitration programs to provide resolutions to a wide variety of business-to-business and business-to-consumer disputes.

Highly Respected Dispute Resolution Programs

BBB National Programs has decades of experience partnering with major automakers, telecommunications providers, advertisers, and small and medium-sized businesses to develop and deliver custom business-to-business and business-to-consumer dispute resolution programs.

Business-to-Consumer Disputes

BBB AUTO LINE

The largest vehicle warranty dispute resolution program in the United States, resolving more than two million disputes between vehicle manufacturers/importers and their customers, and proud to serve as the solution of choice for over 40 years and more than 24 major automakers.

Class Action Arbitrations

Helping parties resolve disputes arising under class action settlements, providing consumers with the right to file for arbitration if the class action settlement administrator denies compensation or benefits.

Privacy Compliance Disputes

Delivering robust accountability on privacy promises for established state, federal, and international privacy guidelines and requirements, providing conciliation and arbitration options for seamless dispute resolution to resolve consumer complaints.

Customized Solutions for Business-to-Consumer Disputes

Efficient arbitration of disputes between Verizon and its customers, responsible mediation and arbitration of disputes arising from the Volkswagen Car-Net Terms of Service, and a customized approach to handling dispute resolution for a variety of certified pre-owned and extended warranty programs.

Business-to-Business Disputes

National Advertising Division

Since 1971, the U.S. advertising industry's independent self-regulation and dispute resolution services mechanism guiding the truthfulness of national advertising, representing the largest body of advertising decisions in the U.S.

National Advertising Review Board

The appellate body for the advertising industry's program of self-regulation, providing industry peer review of decisions with a pool of respected professionals from national advertisers, advertising agencies, and public members.

Direct Selling Self-Regulatory Council

Impartial monitoring, enforcement, and dispute resolution regarding product claims or income representations disseminated by direct selling companies and their salesforces with a robust challenge process.

88%

In an independent national audit of BBB AUTO LINE, more than 88% of consumers said they would recommend the program to friends and family.

Due Process & Fairness

for Businesses and Consumers

BBB National Programs dispute resolution processes create a more level playing field for businesses and their customers.







Our programs provide parties with due process and are administered in a fair, neutral, and impartial manner. Our rules and procedures are straightforward and written in plain language. For many of our dispute resolution programs, businesses and consumers participate without counsel.

85%

In an independent national audit of BBB AUTO LINE®, over 85% of consumers gave BBB National Programs staff an A or B grade for objectivity and fairness.

Mediation

BBB National Programs mediation is available as a freestanding program or as the first step in an arbitration process.

Our mediators are extensively trained using an internally developed program that focuses on resolution of the type of disputes typically presented by consumers in industries served by our programs.

Our mediators enable effective communication between businesses and their customers to explore ways to satisfactorily resolve disputes.

We can provide mediation through "shuttle diplomacy" using telephone mediation conference calls or videoconferencing. We successfully help parties find mutually agreeable solutions to their disputes. When cases are settled, we confirm the settlements in writing and follow up with the parties to ensure compliance.

60%

In the BBB AUTO LINE program, which provides mediation as a first step before arbitration, more than 60% of eligible cases are resolved with a settlement agreed to by the parties.

Arbitration

We provide customized arbitration programs with rules and procedures that can be tailored to address specific industries or specific business needs.

We work with businesses to set program parameters including consumer eligibility and available remedies.

We provide dispute resolution that meets federal and state regulatory requirements for disputes arising under manufacturer warranties—our BBB AUTO LINE program complies with FTC regulations designed to ensure impartiality in warranty dispute resolution and is also certified under several state lemon laws, including California and Florida.

Other dispute resolution programs focus on the needs of business-tobusiness arbitration.

Arbitration hearings can be conducted by document review, teleconference, videoconference, or in-person hearing at various locations throughout the United States. In-person arbitration hearings are conducted in neutral settings and are administered by trained BBB National Programs staff or approved neutrals.

BBB National Programs Arbitrators

BBB National Programs maintains a national pool of approximately 600 neutral arbitrators who serve as independent and impartial decision makers for our dispute resolution programs.

BBB National Programs arbitrators are attorneys and/or dispute resolution practitioners with experience in dispute resolution forums. All BBB National Programs arbitrators undergo initial and refresher training with a focus on subject matters relevant to the programs we administer.

Eric D. Reicin

President & CEO

Prior to joining BBB National Programs as President and CEO in 2019, Eric served as a senior corporate and legal executive with over 25 years of experience assisting publicly traded and private companies and other organizations grow, manage transformational change, and weather regulatory and public scrutiny. Most recently, Eric served as Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary for MorganFranklin Consulting, LLC and MorganFranklin, LLC, a global management consulting firm and government contractor (DOD and civilian) and previously served as Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel at Sallie Mae, then a Fortune 500 diversified financial services company (NASDAQ: SLM). Eric served a six-year term on the global board of the Association of Corporate Counsel, which has a presence in 85 countries. Eric previously served as president of the Association of Corporate Counsel - National Capital Region, the largest regional in-house bar association.





Mary K. Engle
Executive Vice President, Policy

Before joining BBB National Programs as Executive Vice President, Policy, Mary directed the Federal Trade Commission (FTC)'s Division of Advertising Practices, enforcing truth-in-advertising principles for national advertising matters, including claims about food, dietary supplements, medical devices, alcohol, tobacco, and broadband. She also examined social media and digital technology marketing practices. Her investigations and law enforcement actions in this area helped create new policy and standards that are now used to govern influencer marketing, native advertising, and privacy cases. Mary held several management positions at the FTC and served as an advisor to a commissioner and two directors of the Bureau of Consumer Protection. During her government career, she received several awards for her work including the Meritorious Executive Rank Award from President Obama for accomplishments in the management of U.S. government programs and the FTC Chairman's Award for the Commission's 2000 Media Violence Study and Report.



Dona J. Fraser Senior Vice President, Privacy Initiatives

Dona J. Fraser is a leading privacy expert with a passion for building creative solutions to business problems. Ms. Fraser oversees the strategic development, implementation, and ongoing efforts of BBB National Programs' privacy programs, activities, and services. Before joining BBB National Programs, Ms. Fraser served as Vice President, Privacy Certified for the Entertainment Software Rating Board (ESRB), a self-regulatory program developed by the video game industry, for 10 years. In this role, Ms. Fraser was responsible for providing hands-on assistance to participating companies on development of data collection and privacy practices to meet ESRB standards. She also crafted privacy best practices in several areas including mobile apps, downloadable games, behavioral advertising and social networking. Prior to ESRB, Ms. Fraser served as a Director of Business and Legal Affairs for music labels at BMG/Sony Music in New York.



Laura Brett
Vice President and New York Office Leader

Laura Brett is a Vice President and New York Office Leader at BBB National Programs where she oversees the daily operations of BBB National Programs' New York Office and leads BBB National Programs' National Advertising Division—the advertising industry's system of self-regulation founded in 1971. In addition to speaking regularly on the issues surrounding truthful and transparent advertising in all media in the United States and internationally, Ms. Brett has published articles on the ethical standards of advertisers in social media, has been quoted in the New York Times and Wall Street Journal, and participated on several FTC workshop and hearing panels. Prior to joining BBB National Programs, Ms. Brett was a litigator with her own private practice after having worked in commercial litigation at Willkie Farr & Gallagher. Ms. Brett also was elected to her local city council and served as Deputy Mayor.



Juan Herrera
Vice President, Dispute Resolution Programs

A veteran of the U.S. Navy, Juan Herrera currently serves as Vice President, Dispute Resolution Programs for BBB National Programs where he oversees BBB AUTO LINE®—the largest automotive warranty dispute resolution program in the United States and one of BBB National Programs' flagship products—and is responsible for BBB National Programs' Dispute Resolution Division. He strives to deliver continual improvement of the division's existing programs and also leads in the design and development of new programs for industries or manufacturers in need of a neutral, cost-effective, and efficient out-of-court dispute resolution process. This includes working with manufacturers to analyze and identify areas where dispute resolution will be beneficial for their businesses and their customers.



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BBB National Programs, a non-profit organization, is the home of U.S. independent industry self-regulation, currently operating more than a dozen globally recognized programs that have been helping enhance consumer trust in business for more than 50 years. These programs provide third-party accountability and dispute resolution services that address existing and emerging industry issues, create a fairer playing field for businesses and a better experience for consumers. BBB National Programs continues to evolve its work and grow its impact by providing business guidance and fostering best practices in arenas such as advertising, child-and-teen-directed marketing, data privacy, dispute resolution, automobile warranty, technology, and emerging areas. To learn more, visit bbbprograms.org.