**DR DAWN DE COTEAU**
*International Legal Practitioner | Arbitrator | Mediator | Consultant*

**PROFESSIONAL PROFILE**

A highly accomplished legal professional with extensive cross-jurisdictional experience in **mediation, arbitration, and dispute resolution**, offering a unique blend of academic excellence, legal expertise, and strategic consultancy. Qualified in multiple jurisdictions including England & Wales and the Caribbean, and a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb). Proven track record of resolving complex civil, commercial, maritime, and family disputes through both adjudicative and non-adjudicative processes. Recognized for excellence in advocacy, negotiation, governance, and compliance with a culturally informed, ethical approach.

**KEY AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

* Mediation & Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
* Arbitration (Domestic and International)
* Civil & Commercial Litigation
* Maritime & Yachting Law
* Family Disputes & Collaborative Law
* Trusts, Wills & Estates
* Corporate & Regulatory Compliance
* Governance and Public Sector Consultancy
* International Legal Advisory
* Project Management & Legal Strategy

**QUALIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

* **Fellow**, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb)
* **Co-Vice President**, CIArb Caribbean Branch
* **ADR Group Accredited Civil & Commercial Mediator**
* **Barrister-at-Law**, England & Wales
* **Attorney-at-Law**, Grenada, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, St. Kitts & Nevis
* **LLM (Distinction)**, Legal Practice
* **LLB (Hons)**, Law
* **BA (Hons)**, Social Sciences
* **CIM Level 7 – Coaching and Mentoring**
* **PRINCE2 Certified**, Project Management
* **Fellow**, Chartered Institute of Legal Executives (FCILEx)

**PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

* **Co-Vice President**, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators – Caribbean Branch (Present)
Supporting leadership, outreach, and strategic development of arbitration and ADR throughout the Caribbean region.
* **Vice President (Former)**, Grenada Bar Association
Provided leadership on legal reform, public interest advocacy, and professional development initiatives.
* **Principal Consultant**, EMA Solutions – Legal & Strategic Advisory
Leading consultancy work across legal reform, arbitration law development, and capacity building in governance and compliance.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Principal Consultant & Legal Practitioner**

**EMA Solutions Management Consultants & Legal Services** | International | [2012 – Present]

* Leading mediation and arbitration services for civil, commercial, and maritime disputes across multiple jurisdictions.
* Successfully resolved high-value estate, property, and contractual disputes through structured mediation and arbitration hearings.
* Advising governments and private clients on legal reforms and dispute resolution infrastructure development.
* Providing consultancy services on arbitration legislation and designing ADR frameworks, including tribunal mechanisms.

**Consultant Lawyer**

**Setfords Solicitors** | England & Wales | [July 2024 – Present]

* Representing clients in complex family, immigration, probate, and civil litigation matters.
* Appointed to mediate in high-conflict family law cases and multi-party inheritance disputes.
* Conducting cross-border arbitration case assessments, including preliminary jurisdictional issues and enforceability analysis.

**Vice President (Former)**

**Grenada Bar Association**

* Advocated for the modernization of dispute resolution mechanisms in Grenada, promoting mediation and arbitration as alternatives to court litigation.
* Participated in policy development for improving access to justice and ADR in Grenada.

**SELECTED PROJECTS**

* **Caribbean Arbitration Law Reform Advocacy**
Led regional efforts to modernize arbitration legislation across several Caribbean jurisdictions. Advised on drafting, consultation, and implementation strategies to align with international standards such as UNCITRAL Model Law.
**Achievements:**
	+ Influenced the legislative agenda of two CARICOM Member States
	+ Delivered policy briefs to Ministries of Legal Affairs and international investment bodies
	+ Engaged with CIArb Caribbean Branch and local bar associations as expert advisor
* **Petite Martinique Build Back & Housing Repair Programme** *(Post-Hurricane Beryl Recovery)*
Provided legal oversight and strategic guidance for a government-backed reconstruction programme following the devastation of Hurricane Beryl. Led legal analysis of land title irregularities and mediated intergenerational property disputes.
**Key Partners:** Gren Mac Construction, Government of Grenada, EMA Solutions Team
**Results:**
	+ Resolved over 50 complex land and estate-related conflicts through informal and formal mediation
	+ Contributed to successful rebuilding of over 100 homes
	+ Reduced litigation risk and facilitated transparent community consultation processes
* **Yachting Act Reform (Grenada)**
Principal drafter of Grenada’s proposed Yachting Act, including the development of dispute resolution provisions (mediation and arbitration) specific to maritime and tourism sectors. Designed to support international compliance, safety, investment, and revenue generation.
**Collaborators:** Marine and Yachting Association of Grenada (MAYAG), CCMG, Government of Grenada
**Impact:**
	+ Introduced framework for maritime arbitration tribunal
	+ Supported stakeholder buy-in through consultation forums
	+ Positioned Grenada to attract regional and international marine business investment

**PUBLICATIONS & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

* *Corruption in Caribbean Politics – Examining Cultural Tolerance* (Doctoral Thesis)
* Speaker: *International Mediation and Arbitration in Small Island States*, CIArb Caribbean Conference
* Contributor: *The Role of ADR in Maritime Disputes*, Caribbean Maritime Legal Review

**TECHNICAL SKILLS**

* Legal Research & Drafting | Arbitration Rules (UNCITRAL, ICC)
* Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) Platforms | Microsoft 365 | Legal Case Management Software

**MEMBERSHIPS**

* Chartered Institute of Arbitration
* London Court of International Arbitration
* Commonwealth Lawyers Association (CLA)
* Probate Network
* Arbitral Women