



## **ARIAS•U.S. Enhanced Umpire Selection Program**

In an effort to offer an improved approach to the selection of umpires, ARIAS•U.S. has developed a method that allows parties or their counsel to request a random selection from a subset of ARIAS•U.S. Certified Arbitrators. The current Umpire Selection Procedure (“Procedure”) draws random selections only from the entire list of certified arbitrators or umpires. This Enhanced Umpire Selection Program (“Program”) allows more flexibility.

As with the Procedure, the Program requires parties who wish to receive a list of umpire candidates to send a letter requesting a random selection. (Refer to the **ARIAS•U.S. Sample Letter: Umpire Selection Request**). The Procedure returns twelve names; that number is recommended for the Program, as well, so that the other steps in the Procedure can then be followed (refer to the **ARIAS•U.S. Umpire Selection Procedure** or **ARIAS•U.S. Umpire Selection At-a-Glance** for details). However, any number of names can be requested.

The core difference in the enhanced selection process is that the parties may define parameters that filter the list so that the universe from which the random selection is drawn includes only those arbitrators who have the insurance or reinsurance experience that is relevant to the nature of the dispute. Before sending the request with the defining parameters, requesting parties must use the **ARIAS•U.S. Arbitrator Search** system on the website to see the names that results from applying these factors. If too many filters are specified, there may not be sufficient names from which to draw the random selection.

Upon receiving a request from the parties, ARIAS•U.S. will apply the parameters through the search system to the full list of Certified Arbitrators. The resultant list will be generated randomly. The first twelve names on the randomized list (unless another number is specified) will be returned to the parties making the request. If parties wish the names to be selected only from the list of ARIAS•U.S. Certified *Umpires*, that should be one of the parameters specified in the request and tested in the search system in advance.

We hope that parties and counsel will find this service to be of significant value in their arbitration work.