

BOOK REVIEW

Mediation: A Practice Guide for Mediators, Lawyers, and Other Professionals

By David Matz

David Hoffman's new book, *Mediation: A Practice Guide for Mediators, Lawyers, and Other Professionals* (MCLE, 2013) is a collection of gems. Each chapter is a stand-alone essay of lucidly written wisdom. It fuses the most basic mechanics — “Another way that mediators can communicate respect for the parties is by their openness to the parties’ ideas about how to structure their mediation.” — with inquiry into some of our most vexing problems — “At what point do [unavoidably hasty judgments] inhibit us from experiencing the people in our world with an open mind and an open heart?” Please note the judgment of “hasty” juxtaposed with the empathy of “unavoidably.”

Written with his colleagues at the Boston Law Collaborative, David's book provides ten chapters for anyone with any connection to mediation: for the advocate (“Representing Clients in Mediation”), for the new mediator (“Establishing a Mediation Practice”), and for those wanting to dive deeper into the process (“The Psychology of Mediation”).

Trainers and teachers will find among these chapters irresistible readings for students, and practitioners will thumb relevant sections repeatedly.

A quiet work of craft and art. ■



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David A. Hoffman and
Boston Law Collaborative, LLC

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