

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Consumer Advocates to Speak at Federal Consumer Agency's Public Hearing in Albuquerque

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Expected to Release Proposed Rule on Consumers' Access to Legal Remedies

At a Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) public event in Albuquerque, N.M., consumer advocates will support federal efforts to limit the use of terms in consumer financial services contracts that restrict everyday Americans' access to court. The CFPB is holding a field hearing May 5 on predispute binding mandatory (forced) arbitration clauses in consumer finance contracts. The hearing will feature comments by CFPB Director Richard Cordray, consumer advocates, industry representatives, and members of the public.

In March 2015, the Bureau released a comprehensive 728-page study on arbitration, showing its widespread use and its severe constraints on individuals' ability to band together to pursue claims against financial institutions for harm caused by corporate wrongdoing. The Bureau is authorized by statute to write a rule to limit or restrict forced arbitration in consumer financial services. The Bureau is expected to release a proposed rule on the day of the field hearing. The consumer advocates listed below will attend the hearing and will be available for comment.

What: CFPB Field Hearing on Arbitration

Who: Paul Bland, Executive Director, Public Justice (panelist)

Christine Hines, Legislative Director, National Association of Consumer Advocates (panelist)

Rob Treinen, Treinen Law Office PC, consumer protection lawyer/NACA member based in Albuquerque, N.M.

When: Thursday, May 5, 2016 at 11:00 AM MST

Where: Albuquerque Convention Center, The San Miguel Room, 401 2nd Street N.W., Albuquerque, N.M. 87102, live streamed on [CFPB's blog](#)

Why: The CFPB is expected to release its proposed rule on the corporate use of forced arbitration clauses in consumer financial services contracts.

Public Justice pursues high impact lawsuits to combat social and economic injustice, protect the Earth's sustainability, and challenge predatory corporate conduct and government abuses.

National Association of Consumer Advocates (NACA): As a national organization fully committed to promoting justice for consumers, NACA's members and their clients are actively engaged in promoting a fair and open marketplace that forcefully protects the rights of consumers, particularly those of modest means.

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