I'd like to take this month's entry to briefly review a book that was launched in Singapore in March 2015. The book is Mediation in Singapore: A Practical Guide published by Sweet & Maxwell. The edition of this book was compiled by Danny McFadden and George Lim (Senior Counsel) and boasts an impressive list of mediators, researchers, academics, judges, and policy makers. This is a timely publication in view of the developments, growth, and changes in mediation in Singapore and that the mediation movement in Singapore is now over 20 years old.

The purpose of the book as expressed by its editors in the Preface is:

"This book will provide the reader with an easy-to-mind but comprehensive understanding of ADR, with in-depth discussion of conflict, mediation, culture, skills and training, criminal offences mediation, the psychology of mediation and the different models of mediation being currently practised. The reader will gain a practical understanding of how to use legal practice and its place in a civil justice system. Singapore's important ADR resources are discussed and their current practices explained in an easy-to-understand style by experts in the field."

This is a valuable book and while there could have been more focus on matters of ethical and professional responsibility on the part of mediators and legal practitioners, this reviewer feels that its editors and contributors have delivered on its promise of a practical guide. I would recommend this to academics, mediators, and legal practitioners.

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