

NEWS RELEASE

Tuesday, Mar. 17, 2020 For Immediate Release Website: www.fmcs.gov **Contact: Greg Raelson**

Office of Congressional & Public Affairs

Phone: (202) 606-8081

FMCS Offers Virtual Online Mediation

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS), in furtherance of its statutory mandate and the White House memorandum dated March 15, 2020 requiring agencies to offer maximum telework flexibilities as they carry on their missions during this National Emergency, hereby announces the availability of online dispute resolution services.

FMCS is in the process of augmenting our current capacity to conduct online collective bargaining and employment mediation using cutting edge video teleconferencing technology that allows for fully private virtual meeting rooms for parties, with seamless transitions to virtual joint meeting rooms.

Both the video and audio features move with the parties as they engage in both joint sessions and private caucuses. The service also allows for online sharing of documents and can be supplemented as needed with additional technology for idea generation and evaluation as part of comprehensive joint problem solving.

For more information please contact your local FMCS District Executive Manager, listed below and here: https://www.fmcs.gov/aboutus/locations/offices/ If you are unsure which District is appropriate for your location, a map is included for your reference.

North East District, Woodbridge, NJ Peter Donatello, <u>pdonatello@fmcs.gov</u> 732-726-3120

Mid-Atlantic District, Philadelphia, PA Stephen Millen, smillen@fmcs.gov 215-717-7501

Headquarters District, Washington, DC Javier Ramirez, <u>iramirez@fmcs.gov</u> 202-606-3722

Great Lakes District, Independence, OH Michael Franczak, <u>mfranczak@fmcs.gov</u> 216-520-4809

South East District, Nashville, TN Peter Cheng, pcheng@fmcs.gov 615-223-6917

North Central District, Minneapolis, MN Lane Harstad, Lharstad@fmcs.gov
612-331-6193

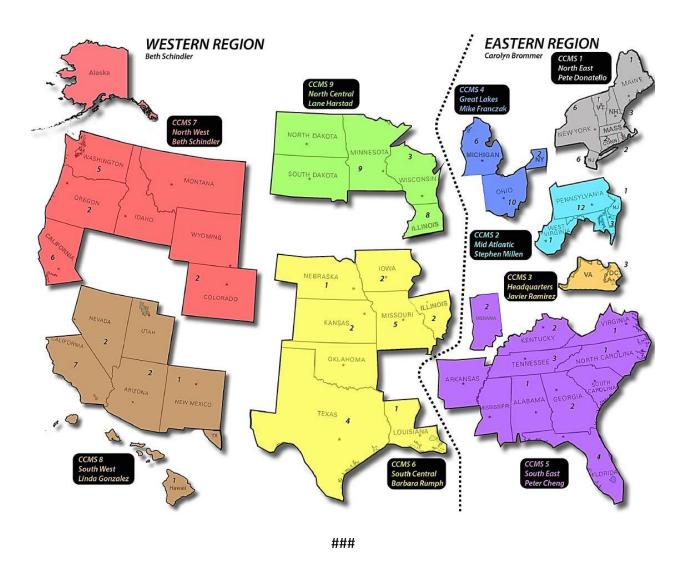
South Central District, Kansas City, MO Barbara Rumph, brumph@fmcs.gov
314-205-2007

North West District, Seattle, WA Jennifer Disotell, jdosotell@fmcs.gov 206-553-4821

South West District, Glendale, CA Linda Gonzalez, Lgonzalez@fmcs.gov 818-409-1324



NEWS RELEASE



The U.S. Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service (FMCS) is the nation's premier public agency for dispute resolution and conflict management. FMCS was created by Congress as a neutral and independent government agency upon enactment of the Labor-Management Relations Act of 1947 (Taft-Hartley Act) and mandated to resolve industrial conflict and promote labor-management peace and cooperation, minimizing the impact of these disputes on the free flow of commerce. With headquarters in Washington, D.C. and offices across the country, the agency has a proud track record of decades of effective dispute resolution and conflict management services for employers and unions across industries and work activities in the private, public, and federal sectors. FMCS is also recognized for its success facilitating negotiated rulemaking processes and for its robust employment mediation program in the federal sector as well as its global program, partnering with more than 60 countries to provide international consulting and training. For more on FMCS or to request services, visit www.fmcs.gov