



Mission Statement

The mission of the Washington Mediation Association is to advance the use of mediation as an effective form of alternative dispute resolution; to foster high standards of mediator conduct, training, and certification; and to be the voice of mediators in Washington State.

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Mediation Links

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President's Message

Dear Mediator Colleague:

Please accept my warm wishes for a wonderful holiday season. As a current member of the Washington Mediation Association (WMA) you have the opportunity to join together to elevate the quality of mediation services and expand the availability of mediation throughout Washington. Your membership dues provide you with the following services:

- outreach to public regarding mediation,
- scholarships for continuing mediator education,
- professional mediator certification,
- flash emails with information on upcoming events and information of interest
- website listing of upcoming local, state, and regional trainings,
- a legislative voice in Olympia,
- a quarterly newsletter with current news and articles of general interest,
- increased mediation business through website listings for certified mediators,
- networking opportunities through regional forums and get-togethers, and
- eligibility for association-sponsored professional liability insurance.

The WMA has worked hard to keep the quality of our services while not raising membership dues since 1998, but the cost of providing your membership services continues to rise. The WMA Board has struggled with the same dilemma faced by many of you as entrepreneurs and small business owners: "After costs and expenses have been cut, to survive do we cut services or raise fees?" After surveying other mediation organizations and much deliberation, the Board took the decision to maintain and perhaps expand services in conjunction with a restructuring of WMA organizational fees.

The new fee structure effective January, 1, 2010

Membership:

General \$75
Student Membership - \$50
For Profit Organizations - \$225

Mediate.Com, news and mediation services

Association for Conflict Resolution

Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service

Mediation Training Institute International

Alternative Dispute Resolution Resources

Conflict Resolution Information Resources

ADR Section – Washington State Bar Association

Conflict Quotes

**The single most powerful tool for winning a negotiation is the ability to get up and walk away from the table without a deal.
~Anonymous**

Never forget the power of silence, that massively disconcerting pause which goes on and on and may at last induce an opponent to babble and backtrack

Non Profit Organization - \$125

Certification:

Initial Certification - \$100, which includes 2 areas of specialization.

Renewal of Certification - \$50

Adding areas of specialization - \$50 per area

If you are due to renew your membership, we encourage you to act before the deadline so you can renew at the current rates. The Board is always interested in member input on our efforts, and would very much appreciate your ideas and suggestions. If you have any questions, concerns or input on these ideas or any of your own, please contact me or your WMA Regional Rep listed on the WMA website at www.washingtonmediation.org.

Dee Martin
President, WMA

US willing to support mediation between Colombia and Venezuela

Adriaan Alsema, *Columbia Reports* Nov. 17, 2009

U.S. ambassador to Bogota, William Brownfield, on Monday reiterated his government's willingness to help improve Colombia's relation with Venezuela that are at a low because of a recently signed military pact between the U.S. and Colombia.



However, the U.S. is not willing to withdraw its military pact with Colombia, which has infuriated Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, who considers an increase of U.S. military presence in Colombia a threat to the stability of the region.

According to Brownfield, Venezuela should not worry about the military agreement that allows the U.S. freely to use Colombian military bases and civilian airports.

"For the umpteenth time ... This agreement is not new ... the purpose of this pact is to increase bilateral cooperation between the U.S. and Colombia to fight drug trafficking and terrorism in Colombia and poses no threat to any country in the world," Brownfield said.

Venezuela accuses the U.S. of seeking to destabilize its leftist government and has frozen all diplomatic ties with Colombia. Trade between the two countries dropped 57 percent in October following the diplomatic crisis.

Source: *Columbia Reports*, Nov. 18, 2009

Woman who bit marital mediator ordered to pay medical bills

By Elizabeth Dinan
edinan@seacoastonline.com
November 17, 2009

nervously. ~ Lance Morrow.

Let us never negotiate out of fear. But let us never fear to negotiate. ~John F. Kennedy

If you come to a negotiation table saying you have the final truth, that you know nothing but the truth and that is final, you will get nothing. ~Harri Holkerri

If you can't go around it, over it, or through it, you had better negotiate with it. ~Ashleigh Brilliant

When a man says that he approves something in principal, it means he hasn't the slightest intention of putting it in practice. ~Otto von Bismarck

Necessity never made a good bargain. ~Benjamin Franklin

The first principle of contract negotiation is don't remind them of what you did in the past; tell them what you're going to do in the future. ~Stan Musial



PORTSMOUTH, NH — A Hampton woman accused of biting a court mediator after a session of marital mediation was court-ordered to undergo anger management therapy and to pay restitution for the victim's medical bills.

Elizabeth Loveday, 38, of -----, appeared in Portsmouth District Court Tuesday for sentencing on two counts of simple assault and a count of violating a protective order. The charges alleged that following a mediation session in the city's courthouse, Loveday threatened to kill her estranged mate, then hit and bit

the mediator.

Through attorney Scott Wanner, Loveday entered pleas of *nolo contendere*, which Judge Stephen Morrison advised "were tantamount to a plea of guilty." As part of a negotiated plea agreement, the charges were placed on file without a finding and will be dismissed if Loveday abides by several conditions.

She was ordered by the judge to continue counseling which must include a component of anger management and to return to the court in 60 days for a review of her progress. She was also ordered to pay \$321.13 in restitution to the victim and to remain of good behavior for one year.

If Loveday completes all of the requirements and remains arrest-free for one year, the charges will be dismissed. If she fails to comply, she will be found guilty without a trial and scheduled for sentencing, the judge explained.

Loveday was arrested in July when police said she was exiting a courthouse meeting room when she shouted to her ex, "I will kill you."

Shortly after, in a courthouse hallway, Loveday swung at, struck, then bit the mediator on her forearm, according to police. The incident was captured on the court's video surveillance system.

Mediation set in Lake Geneva (Wisconsin) City Council case

By Kayla Bunge, Janesville Gazette, Nov. 13, 2009

LAKE GENEVA — A Walworth County judge is hoping the mayor and the four city council members the mayor has charged with violations can work out a resolution through mediation.

Judge Michael Gibbs this week scheduled a court-ordered mediation session for Wednesday, Nov. 25, in his chambers at the courthouse in Elkhorn, his clerk said. The session is not a court hearing and is not open to the public, she said. The mayor, the city clerk and the two recently-appointed replacement council members have been asked to attend, said Joe Wirth, the attorney representing them.

The four charged council members also have been asked to attend, said David Williams, the attorney representing them. Two other attorneys representing all or some of the charged council members also are expected to attend, he said.

A mediator has not yet been appointed, the attorneys said. The judge could serve as the mediator or act as a facilitator, they said.

Mayor Bill Chesen on Sept. 10 suspended four council members, accusing

Quite often, your indifference can be the greatest negotiating weapon you have.
~Max Markson

We cannot negotiate with those who say, "What's mine is mine and what's yours is negotiable."
~John F. Kennedy

Negotiation in the classic diplomatic sense assumes parties more anxious to agree than to disagree.
~Dean Acheson

Vision Statement:

The vision of the Washington Mediation Association is for people to value and utilize collaborative, respectful, and nonadversarial means of dispute resolution, and for these means to be accessible to all. Practitioners will uphold the highest levels of impartiality, integrity, professionalism, and expertise.

Contact Us

Darrell Puls, Editor

them of misconduct and violating the Wisconsin Open Meetings Law. He has also accused two of the four of neglecting their duties. Chesen on Sept. 21 rescinded the suspensions of Roehrer and Krohn to restore quorum to the council, and the council on Sept. 23 approved Larry Magee and Sturges Taggart as replacements for Fesenmaier and Spellman, respectively.

The charges against all four council members still stand, and a removal hearing has been postponed until a special prosecutor is appointed.

The city council was unable to make progress on the matter Monday night. The council declined to dismiss charges against four council members but also declined to fund a special prosecutor. Both parties are hopeful the mediation session will bring an end to the divisive standoff.

Williams said it is likely the parties will agree to have an arbitrator hear the charges against the four council members because there has been a "serious issue" raised as to whether the city council can be "relatively unbiased" in deciding whether to remove the council members.

"We're at the extremes here," Williams said. "You've got an inherent conflict of interest. The people who wanted that office are being asked to rule whether the people they ran against should be allowed to stay. "Can they really be open minded about it?"

Wirth agreed that the case might soon land in the hands of an arbitrator if for no other reason than to expedite the process. "Both sides agree on what the outcome should be, but we need to get a plan in place and get it going," he said.

Both parties have been in negotiations to resolve the fight.

Wirth said the devil is in the details. "I think everybody agrees on the big picture of what could be put into place, but there are a lot of details and a lot of people involved in those details," he said. "So that's what we're working on."

Negotiations continue, the attorneys said, and a resolution could be reached before the scheduled mediation session.

Peace!
Peace!

