

LORI LACONTA, JD, MBA



ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PRACTITIONER

Arbitrator

- U.S. Customs Border Protection, Labor Arbitrator Panel Jan 2013–Present
- National Treasury Employees' Union, Labor Arbitrator Panel Jan 2013–Present
- Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services – Labor Arbitrator Panel, Chemical/Industrial Plant, Fed Bureau of Prisons May 2012–Present
2012–Present
- State of Texas Comptroller, Property Tax Division, Arbitrator Panel 2010–2015
- American Arbitration Association – Labor Arbitrator Panel
Houston Police Officers' Union & Houston Police Department; Houston Professional Firefighters' Association; Combined Law Enforcement Associations of Texas & Laredo, Harlingen, and Edinburg Police Departments; Tangipahoa Federation of Teachers/Tangipahoa School Board
- United States Postal Service and American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO, Atlanta, Southeast Georgia Panels 2007–2009

Arbitration Intern, Mark R. Sherman, Arbitrator/Mediator 2005–2007

Mediator (employment, family, personal injury, commercial, and collections/improper billing, general civil litigation cases)

- Mediator, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission 2011–Present
- ADR Vantage Employment Mediator Panel 2011–Present
2004–2013
- Mediator, Harris County Dispute Resolution Center (DRC Top 100 Volunteer 2007-2012) and Better Business Bureau Houston

ADR & Employee Relations Consultant

Employment Practices Solutions, Inc., Houston, TX 2009-2011

- Conduct neutral fact-finding investigations for workplace harassment claims
- Management and Staff Training for HR, Employment Law, ADR Programs
- Executive Coaching and One-on-One Sensitivity Training

UNIVERSITY ADJUNCT PROFESSOR

Adjunct Professor of Business Management

University of Houston – Clear Lake, Houston, TX

Graduate and Undergraduate Courses

- Human Resource Management
- Employee, Planning, and Staffing
- Labor Relations

2009–2018

University Teaching Assistant

Prof. Mark R. Sherman, PhD, University of Houston – Clear Lake, Houston, TX

- Legal Environment of Human Resource Management (Employment Law)
- Public and Private Sector Labor Relations
- Employment Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Business Negotiations

2005–2010

LICENSED ATTORNEY

Corporate/In-House Counsel	
Allstate Staff Counsel, Houston, TX	2001–2003
Progressive Casualty Insurance Co., Houston, TX	2004–2005
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Insurance defense litigation attorney for Fortune 50 and 200 Companies• First-chaired jury trials with results published in <i>Verdict Search</i>• Managed 75+ cases in litigation from inception through settlement / trial	
Associate/Litigation Attorney	
Barker & Lyman, P.C., Houston, TX	2003–2004
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Litigation attorney for insurance defense firm• Medical malpractice and mass tort litigation	
	2005–2006
O’Quinn, Laminack, & Pirtle, L.L.P., Houston, TX	
Helm, Pletcher, Bowen & Saunders, L.L.P., Houston, TX	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deposed physicians and parties in multi-district pharmaceutical litigation	
Assistant Attorney General	
State of Texas, Houston, TX	1999–2001
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family law attorney for Texas Attorney General’s Office	

LICENSES, CERTIFICATIONS & ADR TRAINING

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arbitrating in the Federal Sector, Federal Mediation & Conciliation Services Institute for Conflict Management	2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Property Tax Arbitrator Training – Texas Comptroller’s Officer	2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual Labor Arbitrator Training, National Academy of Arbitrators, Southwest Conference	2007–2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic EEOC & Advanced Mediation Training Workshop, EEOC Houston and Association for Conflict Resolution Houston	2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parenting Coordinator/Parenting Facilitator, Manouso Mediation	2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Labor Arbitrator Training II, American Arbitration Association	2012
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advanced Mediator Skills Training with Kenneth Cloke	2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Labor Arbitrator Training I, American Arbitration Association	2010
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Becoming a Labor Arbitrator, Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service	2009
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child Protective Services Mediation, Harris County DRC	2009
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transformative Mediation, Institute for Study of Conflict Transformation	2007
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family Mediation, Harris County DRC	2007
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transformative Mediation, American Bar Association, ADR Section	2004
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas	2004
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mediation, Harris County DRC	2002
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• State Bar of Texas	1999

MEMBERSHIPS

Association for Conflict Resolution, Houston Chapter	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• President• President-Elect• Director	2012–2013 2011 2010

Labor & Employment Relations Association, Houston Chapter	
· President	2012-Present
· Second Vice President	2012-2013 2011-2012
Texas Labor Management Conference	
· Director	2010-Present
Texas Association of Mediators	
· President	2017-2018
· President-Elect	2016-2017
· Director	2012-2015
· Co-Chair for 2016 and 2017 Annual Conferences	
Houston Bar Association	
· ADR, Labor & Employment	Since 2008
State Bar of Texas	
· ADR, Labor & Employment	Since 1999

PAPERS, PRESENTATIONS & TEACHING

Red-Light, Green-Light: Arbitrators in the Hot Seat, Plenary Session Panelist with Fellow FMCS Arbitrators, Texas Labor Management Annual Conference	2018
Potential Troubles for Arbitrators and Mediators: Disclosures, Conflicts, and More Ethical Quandaries, Plenary Session Panelist, Houston Bar Assn. ADR Sect., Annual Conference	2018
Practice Tips for New Mediators, Guest Speaker, ADR Course, South Texas College of Law	2016-2018
Specific Skills for Employment Mediation, Panelist, Basic EEOC & Advanced Mediation Training Workshop, South Texas College of Law, Houston, TX	2013
A Texas Roundup: Organizational Ombuds' Place in ADR in the Lone Star State, Panelist, International Ombudsman Assn. Annual Conference, Houston, TX	2012
Workplace Dispute Resolution Processes and Applications, Panelist, Harris County Dispute Resolution Center Hosts Human Resource Business Leaders' Delegation from China	2012
Exploring Mediation Styles and Applications, South Texas College of Law, Alternative Dispute Resolution Advocates (STCL student organization)	2011
ADR Processes for Resolving Workplace Conflicts, ACR Houston and EEOC Houston at Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Houston, TX	2011
Interactional Justice: Moving Away from the "Judge Judy and Executioner" Approach to Labor Arbitration, LERA/NAA SW Conference, Houston, Texas	2010
ADR Overview, ADR History, Arbitration History, Arbitrator Role and Ethics, Advanced Mediator Skills, High Conflict Divorce, Advanced Elder Care Training	2009-Present
· Faculty Trainer, Manoussou Mediation ADR Courses - Houston, Texas	

EDUCATION

MBA, University of Houston, Clear Lake, TX · Human Resource Management Concentration	2009
JD, Southern Methodist University School of Law, Dallas, TX	1998
BS, Communications, University of Texas, Austin, TX	1995