



## Mr. Walter L. Darr, Jr.

Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service

*Field Operations Manager*

### **Biography:**

Walter L. Darr, Jr. is currently a Field Operations Manager with the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service. Mr. Darr joined the FMCS as a Commissioner in March 2015. He is stationed in Houston, Texas and in his prior role as a Commissioner he had responsibility for Southeast Texas as well as Southwest and Midwest Louisiana. In his current Field Operations Manager Role, Mr. Darr has responsibility for the management of 20 Commissioners that have responsibility for providing services in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida (Panhandle), Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas.

Mr. Darr has over 34 years of labor relations experience. Mr. Darr has held responsibility for negotiating, administering and mediating many collective bargaining agreements, including serving as bargaining team Chairman and Chief Spokesperson.

Since joining the FMCS, Mr. Darr has worked with parties mediating the successful negotiation of collective bargaining agreements as well as disputes growing out of grievances related to the implementation and management of collective bargaining agreements. Mr. Darr has developed and delivered training encompassing Dispute Resolution, Collective Bargaining, Grievance Mediation, Interest Based Bargaining, Affinity Bargaining, Effective Communication, Mediation, Steward-Supervisor Relations, Negotiability Issues and many other subjects.

Mr. Darr was a Mediator with the National Mediation Board (NMB) for almost 5 years immediately prior to joining the FMCS. He served the Board in airline, railroad and related cases, including Grievance Mediation cases. Mr. Darr also served as an Instructor in the NMB's Interest Based Bargaining and Grievance Mediation programs as well as in the NMB's development and delivery of Dispute Resolution courses as part of Dominican University's Masters of Conflict Resolution program. For almost 7 years immediately prior to joining the NMB, Mr. Darr served as Principal for an independent consulting firm, with successful engagements in industries governed by the Railway Labor Act as well as the National Relations Labor Act. His consulting experience includes a diverse background providing expertise in areas such as Mediation Services, Human Resources & Employment, Labor/Management Relations, Contract Negotiations, Operations Process Analysis, Organizational Effectiveness and Financial Planning & Analysis.

Mr. Darr was a contributing author of "Options for Improving NEGOTIATIONS AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION: A Report of the Working Group on AIRLINE LABOR RELATIONS" produced by the 2004 Working Group on Airline Labor Relations in cooperation with the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and the MIT Global Airline Industry Study. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix as well as a certificate in Alternate Dispute Resolution from the A.A. White Dispute Resolution Center, University of Houston School of Law.

Mr. Darr currently serves as a member of the Executive Committee to the Board with the Texas Labor Management Conference and the Houston Chapter of the Labor & Employment Relations Association. He resides in Missouri City, Texas with his wife and daughter.

