



Seattle Federal Executive Board Dispute Resolution Program

MISSION

To administer the sharing of expertise of federal and non-federal mediators to provide an effective, non-adversarial way for employees to resolve workplace conflicts

About Federal Executive Boards

Federal Executive Boards (FEBs) were created in 1961 to foster communication, coordination, and collaboration among federal field agencies. FEBs build interagency partnerships and community involvement to create and nurture working relationships that address issues of shared interest. FEBs have three main lines of business: emergency preparedness, workforce development, and inter-governmental collaboration.

The SFEB Dispute Resolution Group

Our program was the first “shared neutrals” dispute resolution consortium among all 28 Federal Executive Boards. Established over 20 years ago, the SFEB DR Program has served federal agencies, King County, the City of Seattle, and the Port of Seattle by providing mediation, Conflict Resolution Training, Facilitation, and Conflict Coaching services.

Providing mediation services to public sector employees continues to be the SFEB DR Program’s primary mission. A secondary but equally important mission is to provide federal supervisors and employees with a tool box of practical, efficient, and results-oriented conflict resolution skills through dynamic supervisor and employee development programs.

For further information, email Brett Eckelberg, sfeb.adr@ssa.gov; go to www.seattlefeb.us/disputeresolution; or call 206-615-3748.

Achievements

2016 Results

- 84 mediations, facilitations, conflict coaching sessions, conflict resolution trainings, and team interventions.
- 77% settlement rate
- \$ 2.3 million* in savings to public sector agencies in the Puget Sound

*Based on Office of Personnel Management estimates on cost savings from mediation services

DR Support and Goodwill in Community

- Mediators conduct off-duty mediations for King, Pierce, Snohomish, Kitsap, and Thurston County Dispute Resolution Centers.
- Mediation Skills Coaching for local DR Programs, including UW and Seattle U.

2016 Notable Events

- Provided Conflict Resolution Training Programs to five groups of managers and employees with positive evaluations and feedback.
- Provided an annual training conference, “Liberating Structures” attended by 85 mediators.

“Federal Executive Boards have become models for partnership-based government of the next century.”

Government Executive Magazine

