

FRANCES WRIGHT HENDERSON

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EDUCATION

- J.D. 1985, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
Research Editor, *N.C. Journal of International Law and Commercial Regulation*
- A.B. 1980, *summa cum laude*, Guilford College, Greensboro, N.C.
Editor, *The Guilfordian*
Charles A. Dana Scholar, 1976-1980

MEDIATION EXPERIENCE AND CERTIFICATION

- Executive Director, Dispute Settlement Center, 1990 to present
- Mediator for criminal district court, community, and family cases
- Certified mediator for Superior Court-referred Mediated Settlement Conferences, NC Dispute Resolution Commission
- Certified Mediator for Superior Court Clerk-referred mediations, NC Dispute Resolution Commission
- Mediator for NC Department of Public Instruction, Exceptional Children Division
- Trained Facilitator for public issues and group mediation
- Family and Community Mediation, Mediation Network of North Carolina
- Practitioner Member, Association for Conflict Resolution

SELECTED HONORS

- Member of Inaugural Class of Leadership Triangle
- Named as member of “The New Generation: Triangle’s Emerging Leaders,” The Independent
- Recipient of a Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation Sabbatical 2001 for community service

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

- Mediation Network of North Carolina (past President)
- Association for Conflict Resolution- North Carolina

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 1991- Present **Executive Director**, *Dispute Settlement Center, Inc.*
Carrboro, N.C. As director of the original community mediation center in North Carolina I oversee programs in:
- Mediation
 - Public Disputes
 - Training

- Victim-offender mediation and conciliation

Duties include management of a staff of eight and a \$500,000 budget, public relations, program development, caseload in interpersonal, family, human relations commission, and special education mediation; interaction with Board of Directors and leadership on a statewide level.

- 1988-90 **Executive Director**, *Orange County Women's Center*, Chapel Hill, N.C. I led a staff of three and interns for this support, counseling and advocacy center. Increased funding by 15% my first year; created a new program area in housing; developed new promotional materials; and created a guide Family Law in Orange County which remains in publication as a fourth edition 17 years later.
- 1987 **Free-lance Grant Consultant**, clients included the NC Association of Women Attorneys and East Central Carolina Legal Services.
- 1986-87 **Attorney**, *Womble, Carlyle Sandridge & Rice*, Winston-Salem, N.C. As a member of a litigation team, I was involved in complex multi-jurisdictional cases and assisted a senior partner in arbitration and litigation, with a general civil practice caseload.
- 1985-86 **Fellow**, *The Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation*, Winston-Salem, N.C. I worked with the foundation staff in selecting which grant proposals would be recommended to the board for funding; worked with non-profit groups across the nation, and reviewed over seven hundred proposals.
- 1984-85 **Director**, *The North Carolina Lawyers Research Service*, Chapel Hill, N.C. I coordinated a staff of twenty-five which prepared memoranda and briefs for attorneys in North Carolina. I increased the service's billable hours by 40%.
- 1984 **Law Clerk**, *Sekul Hornsby Wallace & Teel*, Biloxi, Mississippi. I interviewed clients, wrote memoranda, and assisted attorneys in hearings and trials in this general practice firm.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

"A Calm Approach to Violence In the Schools," **Popular Government** (Institute of Government, UNC-Chapel Hill) Spring 1994, Vol. 59:4 (*with Scott Bradley*)

editor, *Family Law in Orange County*, by J. Lisa Aldred, Orange County Women's Center (January '90)

"Update: Federal Amendments to the Child Support Enforcement Act." **N.C.C.L.A.W. Reports** (Winter '86)

"How Much Immunity for International Organizations? *Mendaro v. U.S.*" 10:2 **N.C.J. Int'l Law & Comm. Reg.** (Winter '85)

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Clerk of Court Mediation, Community Mediation Center of Cape Fear, June 1 - 2, 2006

Special Education Mediation and Law, UNC Institute of Government, 1999 and NC Department of Public Instruction, 2004, and continuing education 2005 and 2006

Conflict Resolution for Lawyers, 2003

Nonprofit Management, Duke University Continuing Education Certificate, 1998

Superior Court Mediation, The Mediation Center, Asheville, N.C., April 1996.

Basic Mediation, Orange County Dispute Settlement Center, March 1991

Divorce Mediation, Mediation Network of N.C., August, 1991

Meeting Facilitation, Durham Dispute Settlement Center, November 1990

OTHER PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

North Carolina State Bar (admitted August 1985)

15-B Judicial District Bar

Orange County Bar Association

Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce

Association for Conflict Resolution-NC

SELECTED CONFERENCES

Presenter, Ohio Dispute Resolution Commission, May 2003; Presenter, First European Conference on Mediation, Vienna, Austria, September 1999; Presenter, Southern Women in Public Service, Jackson, MS, May 1997 and Nashville TN, May 1992; National Conference on Peacemaking and Conflict Resolution, Charlotte, NC, May 1991 and Portland Oregon, May 1993; Presenter, Alternative Dispute Resolution, Continuing Legal Education, NC Bar Association, November 1991; 4th Southeastern Mediation Conference, Greenville, NC, November 1992; University-Practitioner Dialogue on Dispute Resolution, Chapel Hill, NC, March 1994; 6th Southeastern Mediation Conference, Wilmington, NC October 1996 (convenor).

PERSONAL

born Charlotte, NC, 1958; graduate of Charlotte Country Day School, 1976

interests: Southern writers and history, tennis, golf, piano, European travel

References available on request.