

OCB is excited to announce the continuation of its well-received training programs in dispute resolution and in practice and procedure before the OCB. In September and October, we are offering three free programs to interested agency and union labor relations staff.

Space in these programs is already filled, but if you would like to be on the wait list, send an email with your name, title, work location and a brief summary of your role in labor relations to zvalerio@ocb.nyc.gov.

Workplace Skills for Conflict Resolution

September 9 and September 16, 2016 - 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

This two-day class will provide instruction in conflict resolution techniques and negotiation skills that are applicable to a broad variety of workplace conflicts, including work group issues, grievances, and labor-management discussions. The course will consist of classroom instruction and group discussions, as well as role-play scenarios, and will focus on using realistic case studies to improve participants' workplace problem-solving skills.

This class is suitable for labor relations staff, including agency labor relations and management representatives, union officers and grievance representatives. Participants should have duties that require them to directly participate in labor-management issues in the workplace. The program is designed primarily for non-legal staff.

The class is free and open to the first twenty-five students. Participants should seek prior permission from their supervisors to attend this program during their regularly scheduled work hours. The class will be conducted by Sally Klingel, the Director of Labor-Management Programs and Dan McCray, Director Labor Relations Programs at the Scheinman Institute on Conflict Resolution at Cornell University's ILR School.

Seminar on Practicing Before the

New York City Office of Collective Bargaining

Friday, September 30, 2016 - 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

This seminar is intended for Attorneys new to practice before OCB. We will cover basic procedure and practice issues in representation, improper practice, and arbitration cases.

Effective Participation in Mediation for Labor Relations Advocates

October 17, October 24, and October 31 - 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

This three-day class will focus on understanding different types of mediation, the mediation process, and skill- building. Through mock mediation scenarios, participants will be instructed on how to find common interests, strategies to work through deadlocks, and effective ways to use mediation in the workplace, while improving their overall skills as mediation participants.

This class is suitable for Agency labor relations directors, labor relations staff, Union officers, and grievance representatives who have duties that require them to participate in workplace or grievance mediation, contract mediation or mediation at OCB. Both attorneys and non-attorneys are welcome.

The class is free and open to the first twenty students. Participants should seek prior permission from their supervisors to attend this program during their regularly scheduled work hours. The class will be conducted by dispute resolution trainers Debra Osofsky and Felice Busto. Ms. Osofsky has over 25 years of experience as a labor-relations lawyer, negotiator, administrator, problem-solver and teacher, specializing in dispute resolution training. Ms. Busto has worked as a full-time arbitrator and mediator for over 15 years, serves on panels in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, and was an advocate for 20 years.