



Montana

Department of Labor and Industry

Commissioner's Office

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## Media Advisory:

### 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Labor Relations Conference to be Held in Great Falls

The annual Arbitration Training and 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Labor Relations Conference will be held in Great Falls on September 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Holiday Inn. The conference provides a forum for practitioners in the labor relations arena to meet, exchange information and learn from one another. The arbitration training offers an opportunity to interact with nationally recognized arbitrators and labor relations professionals while honing skills specific to the arbitration process.

This year there is a new format to the conference with concurrent sessions of arbitration training and labor relations topics. The arbitration training will be conducted by National Academy of Arbitrator member, Harry Graham. He will be discussing the 10 Myths of Labor Arbitration, Interest Arbitration, Arbitrator Selection and Serious Offenses.

In the labor relations portion there will be topics such as, The Fundamentals of the Act, Stupid Decisions and How to Avoid Them, Getting Along vs. Fighting-The Pros and Cons of Both, Dumb Management-A Union's Best Organizing Tool, Walk a Mile in My Shoes, as well as updates on the most recent cases decided on the state and federal level presented by Karl Englund and Cynthia Walker.

Experts from the National Labor Relations Board and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Services will also be present to discuss the latest cases and developments before their agencies. In addition, as with past conferences, there will be a Red Light, Green Light, session where participants will have an opportunity to interact with and witness how a panel of arbitrators would rule on real life based labor and employment disputes.

Links to detailed agendas for the programs are at [www.mtlaborrelationsconf.com](http://www.mtlaborrelationsconf.com) along with on-line registration information. Continuing education credits will be available.

The Annual Arbitration and Labor Relations Conference for 2011 is sponsored by the Montana Department of Labor and Industry, Board of Personnel Appeals, Montana Arbitration Association, Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, the National Labor Relations Board and the Dispute Resolution Committee of the Montana State Bar.

For additional information contact Ron Stormer at [rstormer@mt.gov](mailto:rstormer@mt.gov) or by calling 406-444-9015.

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