33rd Annual
FEDERAL SECTOR LABOR RELATIONS AND LABOR LAW CONFERENCE

Held annually since 1982, this is the longest-running conference dealing with the federal and postal workplaces held outside of Washington D.C. The conference features both plenary and workshop sessions focused on recent developments in the field with presentations by the leaders of federal agencies and the U.S. Postal Service, the unions that represent federal employees, and key policymakers and leaders of regulatory agencies.

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

8:00am–8:40am
Registration

8:40am–8:45am
Welcome and Announcements

8:45am–9:45am
Opening Plenary Session

9:45am–10:45am
EEO Update

10:45am–11:00am
Break

11:00am–12:00pm
Concurrent Sessions
- Work Facility Relocations
- Ask the Arbitrator

12:00pm–12:45pm
Lunch

12:45pm–1:15pm
Afternoon Plenary Session

1:15pm–1:20pm
Break

1:20pm–2:20pm
Concurrent Sessions
- Effective Advocacy Before the MSPB and MSPB Case Law
- FLRA Update

2:20pm–2:30pm
Break

2:30pm–3:30pm
Concurrent Sessions
- Attorney Ethical Obligations During an Age of Rapid Technological Change
- Employee Dissent: Whistleblower/First Amendment Protections for the Federal Workforce

3:30pm–3:45pm
Break

3:45pm–4:45pm
Closing Plenary Session

4:45pm–5:45pm
Reception

EASY WAYS TO REGISTER

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565 W. Adams Street
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**CONFERENCE SPEAKERS**

- **Eric Bruce**, Assistant Counsel, National Treasury Employees Union
- **Gay F. Chase**, Administrative Law Judge, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board
- **Julia Akins Clark**, General Counsel, Federal Labor Relations Authority
- **Mika J. Cross**, Federal Work/Life Expert
- **William R. Dougan**, National President, National Federation of Federal Employees
- **Barbara B. Franklin**, Member, Federal Service Impasses Panel, FLRA
- **George R. Fleischli**, Arbitrator, NAA
- **Bruce Fong**, Associate Special Counsel, U.S. Office of Special Counsel
- **Susan Tsui Grundmann**, Chairman, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board
- **Charles G. Hardy**, Chief Workplace Officer, U.S. General Services Administration
- **Edward F. Hartfield**, Member, Federal Service Impasses Panel, FLRA
- **Mary E. Jacksteit**, Chair, Federal Service Impasses Panel, FLRA
- **Marvin E. Johnson**, Member, Federal Service Impasses Panel, FLRA
- **Sara B. Kalis**, Attorney, Little Mendelson PC
- **Martin H. Malin**, Associate Counsel, National Treasury Employees Union
- **Jill B. Lubetsky**, Senior Attorney, U.S. Dept. of the Treasury, Office of Chief Counsel
- **Martin H. Malin**, Professor of Law & Director, Institute for Law & the Workplace, IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law
- **FLRA**
- **Michael J. McAuley**, National Counsel, National Treasury Employees Union
- **Dorothy L. Moran**, Administrative Law Judge, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board
- **Daniel C. Mullenix**, Senior Attorney, U.S. Dept. of the Treasury, Office of Chief Counsel
- **Joseph Schimansky**, Executive Director, Federal Service Impasses Panel, FLRA
- **Rachel See**, Lead Technology Counsel, National Labor Relations Board
- **Peter A. Sutton**, Deputy General Counsel, Federal Labor Relations Authority
- **Georgia Vlahos**, Administrative Law Judge, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board
- **Jeannie M. Vonhof**, Arbitrator, NAA
- **David E. Walker**, Member, Federal Service Impasses Panel, FLRA
- **Donald S. Wasserman**, Member, Federal Service Impasses Panel, FLRA
- **Jeanne Charles Wood**, Arbitrator, NAA
- **Michael A. Warner, Jr.**, Partner, Franczek Radelet PC

**FEATURED SPEAKERS**

- **Julia Akins Clark**
  General Counsel, Federal Labor Relations Authority
  Ms. Clark was appointed by President Obama to serve as General Counsel of the Federal Labor Relations Authority in 2009. As FLRA General Counsel, Ms. Clark oversees the FLRA’s seven regional offices and is responsible for protecting federal employee, union, and management rights under the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute passed as part of the Civil Service Reform Act of 1978. An ardent proponent of cooperative labor-management relations, Ms. Clark also provides guidance and resource support to the National Council on Federal Labor-Management Relations. Prior to her appointment at the FLRA, she worked as a trial attorney at the United States Department of Justice and practiced labor law for over 20 years.

- **William R. Dougan**
  National President, National Federation of Federal Employees
  Mr. Dougan has served as National President of the NFFE since 2009. Throughout his tenure as National President, Mr. Dougan has played a key policymaking role in a number of governmental, labor and non-profit forums. As a founder and elected Chairman of the Federal Workers Alliance, he leads the collective effort of 20 unions representing 300,000 federal employees in shaping government-wide workforce policy. As a member of the National Council on Federal Labor-Management Relations, Mr. Dougan has worked with top administration and agency officials to build strong labor-management forums at dozens of federal agencies. Prior to assuming office at the NFFE, Mr. Dougan has worked for over 30 years in federal sector roles at the National Parks Service and the National Forestry Service.

- **Charles G. Hardy**
  Chief Workplace Officer, U.S. General Services Administration
  Mr. Hardy is Chief Workplace Officer of the General Services Administration’s Public Buildings Service. As the agency’s lead executive in charge of workplace strategy he leads GSA’s Total Workplace Program Management Office. Mr. Hardy heads the agency’s efforts across the country with support in vital areas such as design and construction, real estate services, and procurement. Mr. Hardy has been with the GSA since 1991 and is responsible for research, innovation, and development in the delivery of innovative workplace solutions throughout the federal government. Before joining GSA, he was an architect, practicing in the areas of real estate development and commercial architectural design. Mr. Hardy is a retired officer of the U.S. Air Force, having served as an intelligence officer.

- **Susan Tsui Grundmann**
  Chairman, U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board
  Ms. Grundmann was nominated by President Obama to serve as a member and Chairman of the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board. The U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) is a bipartisan, independent, quasi-judicial agency whose mission is to protect the merit system principles and promote an effective federal workforce free of prohibited personnel practices. Before taking the position with the MSPB, Ms. Grundmann was General Counsel for the National Federation of Federal Employees. Prior to that, she served as General Counsel for the National Air Traffic Controllers Association. She has also served as a regular instructor on federal sector law at the William W. Winpisinger Education Center in Placid Harbor, Maryland.

**CONFERENCE ADVISORY BOARD**

- **Tasha Berry**
  U.S. Department of Agriculture
- **ATfbi Bias**
  U.S. Social Security Administration
- **Nancy Bitzer**
  U.S. Railroad Retirement Board
- **Stuart J. Benner**
  U.S. Postal Service, Retired
- **Julianne Bowman**
  U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- **Kelly Anne Keeler Calvanico**
  IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law
- **Pauline Coleman-Sutton**
  Federal Managers Association, Retired
- **Dorothy James**
  American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO
- **Jennifer Helen Lang**
  U.S. Social Security Administration, Retired
- **Pamela Langston-Cox**
  Office of the Chief Counsel, U.S. Department of the Treasury
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- **George Petrovich**
  National Air Traffic Controllers Association, Retired
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- **Marsha L. Ross-Jackson**
  IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law
- **John P. Rowe**
  U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- **Gregg R. Sackrider**
  U.S. Postal Service, Retired
- **Michele Schroeder**
  U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board
- **Thomas A. Summers**
  Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service
- **Peter A. Sutton**
  Federal Labor Relations Authority
- **Christopher Zadina**
  U.S. Postal Service
- **Mark Zaltman**
  U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development

**SPEAKERS AND ADVISORY BOARD**
The panelists will discuss recent developments in workplace communications, work team processes and performance management, trends in workplace communications, work schedules and telework made possible by technological changes, and the impact of recent Supreme Court decisions: Young v. UPS and EEOC v. Abercrombie and Fitch.

John Hendrickson, Chicago Regional Attorney, EEOC
Michael A. Warner, Jr., Partner, Franczek Radelet PC

10:45am
Break

11:00am
Concurrent Sessions:

Work Facility Relocations
The panel will discuss the interplay and challenges of relocating work locations with agency initiatives to reduce rent, maintain productivity, implement telework, and engage employees.
Debra S. Arnold, Work/Life and Wellness Program Strategist, OHRM, USDA
Mika J. Cross, Federal Work/Life Expert
Michael J. McAuley, National Counsel, NTEU

Ask the Arbitrator
The panel of experienced arbitrators will discuss best practices in case presentation, including pre-hearing preparation, advocacy do's and don'ts, closing arguments vs. briefs, and more. The panel will also have time for an audience Q&A.
Arbitrator Panel:
George R. Fleischli, Arbitrator, NAA
Jeanne M. Vonhof, Arbitrator, NAA
Jeanne Charles Wood, Arbitrator, NAA
Advocates:
Eric Bruce, Assistant Counsel, NTEU
Daniel J. Kaspar, Assistant Counsel, NTEU
Jill B. Lubetsky, Senior Attorney, U.S. Dept. of the Treasury, OCC
Daniel C. Mullenix, Senior Attorney, U.S. Dept. of the Treasury, OCC

12:00pm
Lunch

12:45pm
POST-LUNCH PLENARY

Changes to the MSPB Landscape
Chairman Grundmann will discuss current developments at the MSPB, including the implications of recent legislative and judicial developments affecting the appeal rights of federal employees, such as tenured employees subject to OPM suitability actions and SES appointees at the Department of Veterans Affairs. She will also discuss the board’s recent report, What is Due Process In Federal Civil Service Employment? and address common misconceptions about adverse employment actions in the Federal Civil Service. Other topics for discussion include the impact of adjudicating thousands of non-disciplinary furlough appeals and changes to the board’s approach in adjudicating whistleblower reprisal claims resulting from the Whistleblower Enhancement Act of 2012.
Susan Tsui Grundmann, Chairman, MSPB

1:15pm
Travel Break

1:20pm
Concurrent Sessions:

Effective Advocacy Before the MSPB and MSPB Case Law
This session will review recent noteworthy decisions of the MSPB and provide practical tips for effective advocacy.
Gay F. Chase, Administrative Law Judge, MSPB
Dorothy L. Moran, Administrative Law Judge, MSPB
Richard L. Rampage, Administrative Law Judge, MSPB
Georgia Vlahos, Administrative Law Judge, MSPB

FRSA Case Law Update
This session will provide an update of recent decisions of the FRSA and will discuss OGC practices and procedures.
Peter A. Sutton, Deputy General Counsel, FRSA

2:20pm
Break

2:30pm
Concurrent Sessions:

Attorney Ethical Challenges During an Age of Rapid Technological Change
Rapid technological developments have changed the way people communicate, and with those technological changes come new ethical perils for attorneys. Traditional labor law reaching into social media activity is now “old news,” but many lawyers still shy away from social media; are those attorneys ethically competent to handle labor law matters relating to social media? This panel will look beyond social media and will discuss both the benefits and ethical pitfalls associated with the use of already-existing and emerging technology such as cloud computing, the proliferation of handheld mobile devices and BYOD, and their implications for labor law practitioners.
Sara B. Kalis, Attorney, Littler Mendelson PC
Rachel See, Lead Technology Counsel, NLRB

4:45pm
Reception

“I learned something new each session that will assist me in my law practice.” – Previous Attendee
UPCOMING CLE CONFERENCES

September 25, 2015  
2015 Supreme Court Intellectual Property Review  
IL MCLE credit to be determined

October 8-9, 2015  
College of Law Practice Management Futures Conference  
(Members Only)  
IL MCLE credit to be determined

October 15, 2015  
7th annual Conference on Futures & Derivatives  
Eligible for 5.75 hours of IL MCLE Credit

November 6, 2015  
Exposed: Privacy, Security, and the Smart City  
IL MCLE credit to be determined

November 13, 2015  
Institute for Law and the Workplace Conference  
(Members Only)  
IL MCLE credit to be determined

December 4, 2015  
31st annual Illinois Public Sector Labor Law Conference  
Eligible for 5.75 hours of IL MCLE Credit

April 14-15, 2016  
33rd annual Section 1983 Civil Rights Litigation Conference  
IL MCLE credit to be determined

May 19-20, 2016  
35th annual Federal Tax Institute  
IL MCLE credit to be determined

5 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND

1. Explore coming trends in the federal workplace with leading experts in the field.

2. Ask the arbitrators all your burning questions about best practices and case presentation techniques.

3. Engage with leading experts in the federal sector labor law field.

4. Network with fellow federal sector labor law professionals.

5. Earn CLE credit, including 1 hour of ethics credit.

“Dynamic presentations about real labor law issues.”  
– Previous Attendee

INSTITUTE FOR LAW AND THE WORKPLACE

Created in 1996, the Institute for Law and the Workplace is a national center for research, training, dialogue and reflection on the law that governs the workplace. The institute serves as an intellectual home for the labor and employment law community in Chicago and nationally. It pools the resources of leading scholars and the professional community to train students and professionals, monitor workplace trends, and reflect upon issues confronting the labor and employment law community in a neutral academic setting.

INSTITUTE FACULTY

Executive Director  
Assistant Dean Marsha L. Ross-Jackson

Director  
Professor Martin H. Malin

Assistant Director  
Professor Mary Rose Strubbe

Faculty  
Professor Howard C. Eglit  
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FEDERAL SECTOR CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE

For more information or to confirm your participation as a sponsor for this conference, contact Kelly Calvanico, Director of Continuing Legal & Professional Education, at 312.906.5091 or kcalvani@kentlaw.iit.edu.

5 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD ATTEND

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– Previous Attendee
CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION CREDIT

Accreditation has been or will be requested for the Federal Sector Labor Relations & Labor Law Conference for 6.5 general and 1.0 ethics CLE credits on a 60-minute credit hour and 7.75 general and 1.0 ethics CLE credits on a 50-minute credit hour. The actual number of approved hours may vary. Chicago-Kent is an accredited provider in both Illinois and Pennsylvania. See our website to learn if credit will be applied for or has been approved in additional states for this conference.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

We have negotiated special rates for our conference attendees at the following hotels:

The Crowne Plaza Chicago Metro is located just four blocks from Chicago-Kent and is a union hotel. Rooms are available at the group rate of $219 per night plus taxes. Reservation may be made by contacting the hotel directly at 312.829.5000 or online at www.crowneplaza.com/chicagometro. Please mention that you are with the IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law Federal Sector Labor Law Conference. When registering online enter the group code N9T. To enjoy this special group rate, reservations must be made by August 19, 2015.

The Millennium Knickerbocker Hotel is a short cab ride away from Chicago-Kent and is a union hotel. Rooms are available at the group rate of $209 per night plus taxes. Reservation may be made by contacting the hotel directly at 800.621.8140 or online at: www.knickerbockerchicago.com. Please mention that you are with the IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law Federal Sector Labor Law Conference. When registering online enter the group code 1509CONFER. To enjoy this special group rate, reservations must be made by August 6, 2015.

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Please be sure to mention you are attending the IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law Federal Sector Labor Law Conference when making your reservations to receive our special group rates. There are several city-wide events going on that week in Chicago and we recommend making your room reservation as soon as possible.

CANCELLATION POLICY

A full tuition refund will be granted if received by August 20, 2015. Tuition, less a 25% cancellation fee will be granted if received between August 21 and September 10, 2015. No refunds will be granted if received after September 10, 2015, but a substitution of attendees for this program will be permitted. Registrants not entitled to a refund will receive access to the written materials. Registrations made with a purchase order not cancelled before the September 10 deadline will be charged 25% of the registration fees. Email cancellation notices to cle@kentlaw.iit.edu.

Pricing

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