



Mediation Law Group, Inc.™
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Larry O. Sullivan

Mediator, Arbitrator, Trainer

Larry Sullivan is a retired pastor and a core strategic partner, heading Mediation Law Group's™ Kansas City office. A recognized expert in church conflict, Mr. Sullivan has mediated over 65 complex church disputes and trained over 500 pastors in conflict management skills and organizational systems. Mr. Sullivan also serves as a family mediator with MLG's Marriage & Family Mediation Institute. Mr. Sullivan is a valued member of the MLG Training Team, and his compassionate, transformative mediation style has enabled many parties to productively resolve their differences without court intervention.



EXPERIENCE

Prior to joining Mediation Law Group, Larry Sullivan served as the associate director of the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine Law School for over 10 years, leading the Institute's Ministry of Reconciliation Programs. Mr. Sullivan has served as a pastor and church consultant in the American Restoration movement (the Christian Church and the Churches of Christ) for more than 25 years. He holds a *combined* Master's Degree in Dispute Resolution and Masters of Science in Ministry, and is a recognized expert mediator in the area of church conflict.

Mr. Sullivan serves churches and families nationwide with training and conflict intervention. In addition to mediation, Mr. Sullivan's church consulting services include facilitated meetings, mergers, change management, and leadership problem-solving. Mr. Sullivan's church leadership skills are extensive, and bring unique insights to his training forums. From 1980-1985 he served as an associate minister in the 1160 + member Skillman Avenue Church of Christ in Dallas, Texas; from 1985 to 1991 as the Senior Minister at the 1240 member Northwest Church of Christ in Phoenix, Arizona; and from 1991 – 1995 as the Senior Minister at the 900+ member Capitol City Christian Church in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Mr. Sullivan heads the Kansas City, Missouri division of MLG's Marriage & Family Mediation Institute, where he mediates family, property, support and marriage-related disputes. He has over 60 hours of divorce and family mediation training, in addition to domestic violence awareness and prevention training.

EDUCATION: • Master's in Dispute Resolution, Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, Pepperdine University School of Law, 2000 • Master's Degree in Ministry, Pepperdine University, 1991 • Alban Institute • Lombard Institute • Bachelor of Religious Education (*summa cum laude*), Trinity College of the Bible, Newburgh, Indiana 1982

MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

Mr. Sullivan is a member of the Southern California Mediation Association, Association for Conflict Resolution, and the Christian Management Association. He is a past board member of Nebraska Campus Ministries, past president and board member of the Center for Conflict Resolution (Pasadena, California), past president and state council member of East Dallas Rotary Club, former board member of the Ministerial Council for Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas; and past Advisory Board Member for the West Angeles Mediation Center, Los Angeles, California.

ARTICLES AND TRAINING

Professor, "Dispute Resolution and Religion," Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University School of Law; instructor/trainer for the Dallas Episcopal archdiocese mediator training; author, "Spiritual Infusions into Unhealthy Church Disputes," *Masters Thesis*, 2000; "Standard Code of Ethics for Mediators and Collaborative Lawyers" (training); "Managing Difficult Moments Before a Watching World" (6 hour dispute resolution training for pastors and church leaders); "Advanced Training for Family Conciliation Ministry Leaders" (training); "Church Leaders' Dialogue" (roundtable workshop); "Tunnel of Conflict" (6 hour Intensive Training Institute, Christian Management Association); "Managing Differences Within a Multi-Ethnic Congregation" (training); "Managing Conflict and Change in the Church" (training); "Is It Heresy to Help Christians Peacefully Divorce?" (workshop); Pepperdine Lectures speaker, workshops and speaking engagements with Abilene Christian University (Dallas, TX), Jones School of Law at Faulkner University (Montgomery, AL), Robert Schuller Institute for Successful Church Management (Garden Grove, CA), Western Christian College (Dolphin Manitoba, Canada), dispute resolution instructor at Handong International University (Pahong, Korea), and Mexico.

