

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION STATEMENT

We are committed to the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process to resolve disagreements without litigation.

In passing the Administrative Dispute Resolution Act (ADRA) of 1966, Congress recognized that agency dispute resolution proceedings had become increasingly formal, costly, and lengthy, resulting in unnecessary expenditures of time and a decreased likelihood of achieving consensual resolution of disputes. Congress also found that ADR procedures yield decisions that are faster, less expensive, and less contentious than traditional agency dispute resolution proceedings and that Alternative Dispute Resolution can lead to more creative, efficient, and sensible outcomes.

Alternative Dispute Resolution encompasses a range of problem-solving processes with the basic purpose to resolve disagreements without litigation. ADR is a fast, relatively inexpensive way to resolve disputes. The ADR process uses a neutral third party, known as a mediator, to facilitate resolution. The mediator is trained to work with all parties to help them find a way to resolve their dispute. The goal is for all parties to reach their own voluntary agreement. Mediators cannot make decisions or force decisions on the parties to the dispute.

The President and Congress have determined that each federal agency must take steps to promote the greater use of ADR. As part of this effort to operate in a more efficient and effective manner, we encourage, where possible, consensual resolution of issues in controversy or disputes involving the federal government. The ADR program manager can be reached at: 719-333-4258.

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