



August 9, 2006

Barbara Adams, Esquire, General Counsel
Office of the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capital Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Conflict Resolution Day 2006

Dear Barbara:

You may recall our brief conversation about this year's annual commemoration of Conflict Resolution Day, in which I inquired about obtaining the Governor's proclamation of October 19, 2006 as Conflict Resolution Day in Pennsylvania. You asked me to send you more information on this subject as the date grew closer, and I am now complying with your request.

First, why am I asking? I am doing so in my capacities as immediate past president of the Greater Delaware Valley Chapter of the Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR), an international organization of professional and volunteer conflict resolvers of all types (including arbitrators, mediators, conciliators, ombuds, facilitators, etc.) dedicated to enhancing the practice and public understanding of conflict resolution, as a board member of the Pennsylvania Council of Mediators (the state-wide organization of professional and volunteer mediators) and also as a local representative on the Planning Committee for the annual conference of ACR, which coincidentally is being held this year in Philadelphia, from October 25 through 28.

Second, what is the purpose of Conflict Resolution Day and why is it worthy of the Governor's recognition? Conflict Resolution Day provides an opportunity for the entire country to devote at least one day each year to increasing public understanding of peaceful and constructive ways to resolve interpersonal and intergroup conflicts of all types and in all settings – certainly a worthy goal for all of us and one that I'm sure the Governor endorses. This year there will be a wide variety of activities dedicated to this purpose, across North America as well as our Commonwealth, occurring around Conflict Resolution Day and culminating in ACR's annual meeting a few days later, at the Sheraton Philadelphia City Center Hotel.

Third, what might such a proclamation say? In order to provide some ideas for this proclamation, I have enclosed several examples of proclamations issued by local Pennsylvania governmental entities for last year's Conflict Resolution Day commemoration. I understand that similar proclamations are being considered again this year, as well as in the General Assembly and elsewhere across the country. Of course, please feel free to get back to me should the Governor be interested in additional background material or other information.



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Finally, when might such a proclamation be delivered? One thought that occurred to me is that a representative of the Governor's office might formally present his proclamation at one of the plenary sessions of ACR's annual meeting, perhaps accompanied by a brief welcoming statement to the delegates from all over the world. I would be happy to assist in this endeavor if you think it is worth pursuing.

In conclusion, on behalf of both ACR and PCM, may I express our appreciation for your and the Governor's consideration of this request and for whatever support it receives?

Sincerely,

James A. Rosenstein

Enclosures

cc: (w/o enclosures)

Terrence Wheeler, Esq., ACR President

✓ Gale McGloin, PCM Board President

✓ Sharon Press, Esq., ACR Conflict Resolution Day Coordinator

Mark Welge, Esq., ACR-GDV Chapter President