



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

MALA MALHOTRA-ORTIZ (“Mala Ortiz”)

Ms. Mala Ortiz serves as Associate General Counsel and Director of the Conflict Resolution Division, which includes alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and Negotiation initiatives in the Office of the Deputy General Counsel for Contractor Responsibility and Conflict Resolution, Washington, District of Columbia. In the position, she shapes Air Force policy on Collaborative Resources and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). Specifically, she directs the Air Force ADR program for workplace matters, transactional disputes and litigation, negotiations capabilities, coaching, and ombudsman initiatives enterprise-wide. She has personally mediated over 1200 matters in a variety of substantive areas including environmental, employment, contracts, domestic, estates and trusts, land-use, workers’ compensation and taxation, in both state and federal fora.



Ms. Ortiz was previously appointed Presidential Management Fellow with the Department of Transportation, Department of Justice, and the Bureau of Land Management; she was a clinical professor at the University of Baltimore, School of Law; managed a solo-law firm specializing in collaborative services and litigation; and, Alternative Dispute Resolution Division founder and director at the Maryland Court of Special Appeals. She is also a reservist ADR Advisor for FEMA and a roster member of the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution. She is admitted to practice law before the Court of Appeals of Maryland, the federal Immigration Court, the U.S. District Court of Maryland, and has filed appellate briefs in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice.

EDUCATION

- 1996 Bachelor of Arts, *cum laude*, University of Maryland, College Park (Politics and Economics)
Studies Abroad:
 - 1995 American School of International Business, Vevey, Switzerland
 - 1996 University of North London, Economics
- 1996-98 US Peace Corps, Paraguay
- 1999-00 AmeriCorps/VISTA StateLeader, State of New Mexico
- 2004 Juris Doctor, University of Maryland, School of Law (International Moot Court, Environmental Law)

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

- Free State Justice, Board Member (2016-2017)
- Maryland State Bar Association, President’s Membership Committee (2016-2017)
- Maryland State Bar Association, ADR Section Chair (2016-2017)
- LGBT Bar Association of Maryland, President (2010-2012)
- Access to Justice Award Recipient for the Maryland Court of Special Appeals, ADR Division (2014)
- Baltimore County Community Mediation Center, Board Member (2009-2014)

(Current as of March 2017)