

## **WILLIAM E. PERSINA**

Mr. Persina is a labor arbitrator specializing in federal sector labor and employment law cases. In addition to his current service as a presiding member on the Foreign Service Grievance Board, he is also the Vice-Chair of the Government Accountability Office (GAO) Personnel Appeals Board, which rules on labor and employment law issues concerning GAO employees. He also is Chairman of the District of Columbia Office of Employee Appeals, which hears and decides appeals of District of Columbia government employees who have been the subject of various kinds of adverse personnel actions such as suspension, termination, or reduction in force. Mr. Persina was also the public member on the District of Columbia Police and Fire Retirement and Relief Board from 2010 to 2012. In that position, he participated in deciding disability retirement issues involving District of Columbia first responders.

From 2007, when he retired from the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA), to 2010 Mr. Persina was engaged in the private practice of law. This included serving as Of Counsel at the law firm of Mahoney & Mahoney, which specializes in federal employee labor and employment law issues including discrimination and discipline cases. After starting a solo law practice, Mr. Persina was retained by the American Federation of Government Employees, Council 33, which represents federal correctional officers. In this capacity, he represented employees in adverse action cases and other personnel matters such as pay cases arising under the Fair Labor Standards Act. His practice also included providing consulting services to the United States Bureau of the Mint on labor and personnel issues.

From 1980 to 2007 Mr. Persina was an attorney in the Solicitor's Office of the FLRA, including service as the FLRA's Solicitor, a Senior Executive Service position and the agency's chief legal officer. His work in the Solicitor's Office included representing the agency in federal district and appellate courts, as well as in the United States Supreme Court, where he successfully argued on behalf of the agency. He also served the agency in stints as the Acting Regional Director in the Washington Region and as Acting Chief Counsel for an FLRA Member and Chairman. Prior to his work at the FLRA, Mr. Persina was a staff attorney for the National Treasury Employees Union, representing bargaining unit employees in various settings, including arbitration and contract negotiations.

Mr. Persina is a member of the District of Columbia Bar, and is admitted to practice in various federal courts including the United States Supreme Court. He attended the School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University (BS 1968) and the George Washington University Law School (JD 1972). He lives in the District of Columbia with his wife.