Preface to the Eighth Edition

Current through February 29, 2016, with selected updates through June 30, 2016

Since its inception a half a century ago, How Arbitration Works has been justly acclaimed as the most comprehensive, definitive, and authoritative treatise on labor arbitration.

Beginning with the Fifth Edition, the responsibility for continuing the creative scholarship of Frank and Edna Asper Elkouri passed to the Committee on ADR in Labor & Employment Law of the Section of Labor and Employment Law of the American Bar Association. The Sixth Edition began the process of reorganizing and expanding the text to more fully consider several major developments.

Perhaps the most significant of these was the growth of public-sector collective bargaining and the arbitration of contract disputes in the federal service and state and local government employment. These involve important constitutional and statutory issues that have no private-sector counterpart and require extended treatment.

Second in importance is the increasing reliance by arbitrators upon federal and, to a somewhat lesser extent, state statutory employment regulations to resolve an ever-widening array of grievance issues. These regulations must be considered if arbitration awards are to continue to receive great deference by the courts.

The Eighth Edition continues the reorganization and expansion of the text, with an emphasis on reorganizing the text to reduce redundancies in areas such as citations to make the material easier for the reader.

Thus, How Arbitration Works is, and should always remain, a work in progress.

I was honored and pleased to have the invaluable assistance and friendship of the Associate Editors, Patrick M. Sanders, the former employer co-chair of the ADR Committee and General Counsel of the Mungenast Automotive Family, St. Louis, Missouri, and Michelle T. Sullivan, the former union co-chair of the committee, who is currently Director of Labor Relations for the University of Michigan Health System and was previously a partner with the union-side firm of Allotta, Farley & Widman.
As with previous editions and supplements, the criticism of readers and suggestions for the next edition are invited and welcomed. Along those lines, I would especially acknowledge the contributions of Ezio Borchini and Ricardo Miranda.

I would like to thank the American Bar Association, the Section of Labor and Employment Law, the ADR committee, and Bloomberg BNA for giving me the opportunity to edit the Eighth Edition.

I would like to thank the arbitrators and advocates who agree to submit their awards for publication for the edification of others in the field and the development of the law of labor arbitration.

Kenneth May
Editor-in-Chief

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