

John C. Schafer

John C. Schafer joined the N.C. Industrial Commission as its Dispute Resolution Coordinator in April of 1997. Since June of 1999, he has also been Deputy Commissioner in Charge of Mediation.

Mr. Schafer is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame, and received a J.D. degree from the Wake Forest University School of Law in 1984. At Wake Forest, Mr. Schafer was the Chief Justice of the Moot Court Board, finished in first place and received the best brief award in the southeast region of the National Moot Court Competition, finished in first place in the southeast region of the National Trial Competition, and received the Order of the Barristers Award.

After receiving his law degree, Mr. Schafer served as law clerk to Honorable W. Earl Britt, Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina, from 1984 through 1986. From 1986 through 1997, Mr. Schafer practiced law in the Triangle area. His primary practice area was civil litigation in state and federal courts, and he also served as a mediator and arbitrator in cases pending before the Industrial Commission, Office of Administrative Hearings, American Arbitration Association, as well as in state and federal courts.

Mr. Schafer has served as the Co-Chair of the ADR Book Committee, a joint committee of the North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission (DRC) and the Dispute Resolution Section of the North Carolina Bar Association (NCBA), which wrote and published the book titled “Alternative Dispute Resolution in North Carolina: *A New Civil Procedure*” (2003). Mr. Schafer has also served as the Chair (1999-2000), Vice-Chair (1998-99), and Secretary (1998-99) of the NCBA’s Dispute Resolution Section, and is currently an ex-officio member of the ADR Committee of the State Judicial Council and the DRC.

He is married to attorney Allison B. Schafer, legal counsel and director of policy for the N.C. School Boards Association, and has two children.

E-mail Deputy Commissioner Schafer at John.Schafer@ic.nc.gov or his administrative assistant, **Mary Roussel**, at Mary.Roussel@ic.nc.gov.