



Department of Veterans Affairs

Washington, D.C

The Honorable Patricia J. Sheridan

Patricia J. Sheridan was appointed Chairman and Chief Administrative Judge of the Board of Contract Appeals by Secretary of Veterans Affairs R. James Nicholson on May 14, 2006.

As Chairman, Judge Sheridan heads a board composed of herself and four other Administrative Judges. She is responsible for ensuring fair and timely disposition of contract disputes in which VA is a litigant. The decisions of the Board concerning construction, supply, and service contract disputes are final within the department but are subject to review by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Judge Sheridan was appointed to the Board on July 16, 2000. She had served as the Board's Hearing Examiner since November 1991.

In May 2006, Judge Sheridan was also appointed VA's Dispute Resolution Specialist, serving as VA's advocate for the use of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and implementation of the *Administrative Dispute Resolution Act of 1996*. At VA, she mediates and engages in a variety of other ADR processes to assist parties in disputes involving contracts, discrimination, and other personnel and labor arenas. She conducts briefings and teaches a variety of courses on conflict resolution, ADR processes and mediation. She has helped design several mediation and ADR programs throughout the Department and is a trained facilitator, mediator and arbitrator. Judge Sheridan is a member of the Steering Committee for the Federal Interagency ADR Working Group and represents VA's ADR interests in various other interagency groups.

Judge Sheridan began her tenure at VA in the Office of General Counsel, Contract Law Division, where she served as a trial/staff attorney specializing in legal matters involving procurement of supplies, services and construction. She represented the VA before the VA Board of Contract Appeals and served as counsel with the Department of Justice in its representation of the VA before various Federal courts.

Judge Sheridan received a B.A. degree from Curry College and a J.D. degree from Syracuse University College of Law. Prior to coming to the VA in 1984, Judge Sheridan was in private practice with a Northern Virginia law firm.

October, 2006



**Chairman and Chief
Administrative Judge**