



# Barbara N. Lyons, Esquire

## Curriculum Vitae

“The Farm”  
220 Farm Lane Doylestown, PA 18901  
215-340-7655

### **PROFESSIONAL PROFILE/BIOGRAPHY**

Barbara N. Lyons, Esquire is a certified, skilled and experienced lawyer specializing in neutral arbitration, mediation and case evaluation. She founded the Bucks County Mediation and Arbitration Center (BCMAC) to provide parties to disputes with alternatives to traditional litigation.

Through BCMAC, Ms. Lyons provides full-service Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) solutions to lawyers and their clients. Ms. Lyons addresses issues involving, but not limited to, contract and real estate disputes, equity matters, underinsured and uninsured motorist cases, personal injury, municipal, medical malpractice and employer/employee disputes, business mergers and dissolutions, and select, high-conflict, child custody disputes.

An experienced attorney since 1981, Ms. Lyons has practiced law as both a defense attorney and as a plaintiffs' attorney as a partner with Randolph Scott and Pratt Brett Lyons and Luce. This training provides her with a unique perspective on the resolution of legal matters – with a penchant for cutting through the clutter and resolving disputes. Ms. Lyons has been a dedicated neutral attorney since 1994 when she focused her practice in *all* methods of resolving disputes outside of the court system.

Ms. Lyons is admitted to practice law in the Courts for the County of Bucks, Pennsylvania Supreme Court, and the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. She is a court appointed arbitrator and member of the Federal Arbitration Panel. Ms. Lyons has also served as a court appointed Parent Coordinator for the Bucks County Family Court and handled difficult family custody cases and provided testimony in custodial matters where a change in a custody order may be warranted. Just before founding BCMAC, Ms. Lyons taught peer mediation to school children in Bucks County and decided to bring her unique talents to the legal community.

Ms. Lyons is a member of the Senate Advisory Commission on Alternative Dispute Resolution and serves on the ABA Advanced Mediation Institute faculty. She works to create systems of alternative dispute resolution throughout the Commonwealth. She assisted in the creation of the innovative mediation program for the Bucks County civil court system that provides the alternative of mediation to litigation. Ms. Lyons helped to create the Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Program of the County of Bucks in which she served as Judge Pro Tem in over 3000 conferences to date.

In March 2013, Ms Lyons was appointed to the Joint State Government Commission's Advisory Committee on Violence Prevention. This advisory committee assisted the Commission in researching and drafting violence prevention recommendations to the State General Assembly.

An active member of the legal community, Ms. Lyons has served multiple terms as a Director for the Bucks County Bar Association. She was the founder and editor of the newsletter for the Bar Association, a member of the Women's Law Division, and serves as a Trustee to the Charitable Foundation for the Bucks County Bar Association.

Ms. Lyons also serves the greater community as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors for Doylestown Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Prior to this appointment in 2002, she served for several years as Chairman of Doylestown Township's Park and Recreation Board. Ms. Lyons chairs the Township Golf Outing and is the past chair of the Township's annual Oktoberfest. She has volunteered time and talents to numerous organizations and has provided pro bono legal representation to abused women for three decades. She is the Director of Public Safety and works with the Chief of Police for Doylestown Township in the administration of a twenty-two member police department. She was elected to the Board of Supervisors in 2003 and re-elected in 2009. Ms. Lyons continues to serve as Chairman of the Board, elected annually by her fellow board members. She was chosen to receive the CB Chamber of Commerce VIA Women in Business Leadership Award for 2013, in recognition of her outstanding leadership in the Central Bucks community.

From 1992 to 1995, Ms. Lyons served as the Director of *A Woman's Place*, a center for victims of domestic violence and their children. She continues to serve the community in various other ways. She is currently the President of the Board of *CB Cares Educational Foundation*, a non-profit organization that works as a coalition with community leaders, agencies, businesses, schools and families for the purpose of helping to grow a healthier youth. Ms Lyons also demonstrates her commitment to the community as a counselor to women and families in transition.

Ms. Lyons earned her B.A. *summa cum laude* from the University of Pittsburgh and her J.D. in 1981 from Temple University School of Law. She is a frequent, dynamic lecturer at high schools and universities.

Ms. Lyons and her husband, Rick Lyons, are the proud parents of three adult children all of whom are alumni of Villanova University. In her spare time, Ms. Lyons enjoys time with family and singing in her church choir.

## **CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- 34 years in the practice of law in Bucks County, Pennsylvania
- 14 years as a civil litigator in negligence, commercial, insurance liability and family law
- 20 years practice and experience as a neutral arbitrator, mediator and case evaluator
- Supervisor, Doylestown Township. Appointed, June 2002| Elected, 2003 | Elected 2006 (Chairman)| Re-elected, 2009 | Elected Chairman annually
- Member of the Senate Advisory Commission on Alternative Dispute Resolution and Business and Personal Injury Subcommittee
- Member of the Joint State Government Commission's Advisory Committee on Violence Prevention
- Member of the Federal Arbitration Panel

- Coordinator and volunteer administrator of the Mediation Program for the Courts of Common Pleas of Bucks County
- Appointed to the Joint State Government Commission on Alternative Dispute Resolution, 2007
- Created the Mortgage Foreclosure Diversion Program for Bucks County, 2009
- Extensive experience in municipal government and administration

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Bucks County Mediation and Arbitration Center (1995 – Present)**

#### **Proprietor**

A professional company offering certified, skilled and experienced neutral attorneys in mediation, arbitration and case evaluation; resolved hundreds of cases by mediation or by neutral arbitration. Since 1995, Ms Lyons has served as an arbitrator and mediator in civil matters in thousands of cases. She has also provided over 100 confidential case evaluations for civil litigation attorneys practicing in the tri-county region.

### **Pratt, Brett, Lyons and Luce, P.C. (1988 – 1994)**

#### **Partner**

A general litigation practice in plaintiff and defense negligence law, business, and family law.

### **Scott and Lyons, P.C. (1981 – 1988)**

#### **Partner**

A general litigation practice including: defense and plaintiff negligence law, estates, orphan's court matters, business, commercial and family.

## **EDUCATION**

### **Temple Law School**

Philadelphia, Pa (J.D. 1981)

### **University of Pittsburgh**

Pittsburgh, Pa (B.A. History 1977, *summa cum laude*)

## **COURT ADMISSIONS**

- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- Supreme Court of Pennsylvania
- Bucks County Court of Common Pleas

## **AWARDS & HONORS**

- Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce VIA Women in Business Leadership Award 2013
- Bucks County Bar Association Arthur B. Walsh Pro Bono Award, 2010
- Bucks County Bar Association President's Award, 1992
- CB Cares Community Service Award, 2009
- Central Bucks Community Service Award from the Bucks County Council, Boy Scouts of America, 2010
- Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Pro Bono Attorney of the Year Award, 2008
- Doylestown Rotary Service Above Self 4-Way Test Award, 2004

- Soroptomist of Bucks County Award: Advocacy for Economic and Social Development, 1996

## **COMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

- Annual Tobacco-free Education and Action Coalition for establishing no smoking bans in Doylestown Township parks, 2006
- Borough of Doylestown for historic preservation and economic development 2003
- Bucks County Council Annual Award from the Boy Scouts of America for leadership and commitment to community, 2010
- CB Cares Organization Annual Award for Service to the Youth Community, 2008
- Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for Service to the Bucks County Community, 2010
- County of Bucks, for Service to the Bucks County Community, 2010
- Doylestown Township, for development of parks and environmental education programs for school children, 2000
- Kremlin Palace for contribution to the success of the Moscow Conference on Law and Economic Cooperation, 1990
- Senate of Pennsylvania for Service to the Bucks County Community, 2010

## **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Pennsylvania Bar Association**

### **American Bar Association**

### **ABA Advanced Mediation Institute**

### **Bucks County Bar Association:**

- Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee, 2002 – present
- Women's Law Division, 1998 – present
- The Writs, the Bar Association News Journal: Founder and Editor-in-Chief, (1990 – 2002)
- Director (1982 – 1984) (1988 – 1990) (2000 – 2002) (2015 - )
- Secretary (2002)
- Civil Litigation Division, 1981-1994
- Chairman, Young Lawyers Division, 1982

**Bucks County Bar Association Charitable Foundation, Trustee** (2006 – Present)  
Secretary (2014- Present)

**Bucks County Family Court, Parent Coordinator** (2006 – Present)

**Federal Arbitration Panel, Member** (2002 – Present)

**Pro bono Legal Representative** (1981 – Present)

Serves as Judge Pro Tem in mortgage foreclosures conferences; provides counsel for victims of domestic abuse

**Senate Advisory Commission on Alternative Dispute Resolution** (2007 –2010)

**Joint State Government Commission's Advisory Committee on Violence Prevention**  
(March 2013 – Present)

## **COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Bucks County (1981 – 1984)**

- Director

### **Bucks County Open Space Task Force (2007)**

### **Doylestown Teen Center**

- Founder and funder

### **Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors (2002 – Present)**

- Appointed 2002 | Elected 2003, six year term of office as Supervisor | Elected in 2009, second six year term. Responsible for: setting policy, enacting ordinances and resolutions, adopting budgets and levying taxes, and maintaining roads, parks and twenty-two member police department.
- Elected Chairman Annually (2006 to Present)
- Director of Public Safety (2008 to Present)

### **C B Cares Educational Foundation**

- Director (2004 – Present)
- President (2012 – 2014)
- An organization that promotes positive values, attitudes and behavior in young children and adolescents by building coalitions with parents, schools and health care professionals.

### **Doylestown United Methodist Church and Sanctuary Choir (2003 – Present)**

### **Doylestown Comfort Hospice Choir (2010)**

### **The Choristers 2015**

### **County Theater Director (1999 – 2005)**

### **Doylestown Borough Revitalization Board (1992 – 2002)**

- Director (1992 – 1998)
- Chairman (1998 – 2002)
- Founding Member of the Main Street Manager Program (1998)

### **Doylestown Township Oktoberfest (1994 – 1998)**

- Chairman (1997 – 1998)

### **Doylestown Township Park and Recreation Board (1995 – 2002)**

- Director (1995 – 1998)
- Chairman (1998 – 2002)

### **Doylestown Township Planning Commission Liaison (2006 – Present)**

- Open Space and Farmland Preservation Board
- Regional Transportation Advisory Committee

### **Doylestown Township Public Information Board (1995 – 1996)**

- Director (1995 – 1996)
- Produced award winning Doylestown Township Annual Report (1996)

**Juvenile Justice Center**

- Instructor

**A Woman's Place Agency (1992 – 1995)**

- Director (1992 – 1995)
- Full Circle Thrift Shop, founding member (benefiting *A Woman's Place*)

**Villanova University (2006 – Present)**

- Member, National Parent Committee
- Endowed the Barbara N. and Richard J. Lyons Income for Interns Fund 2011

**William Penn Charter School (2004 – 2007)**

- Member, Capital Campaign Committee

**SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS / TEACHING / PUBLICATIONS****Bucks County Bar Association**

- Family Law Mediation Training Faculty, Course materials Author (2004)
- Basic Mediation Training Faculty, Course materials Author (2008)
- Advanced Mediation Training Faculty, Course materials Author ( 2013, 2014)

**Bucks County Mediation Program Faculty, Course materials Author (2004)**

Judge Pro Tem Training Faculty ( 2012, 2013, 2014)

**Bucks County School Districts**

- Numerous lectures on local government and peer mediation training (1993 – Present)

**Civil Litigation in Bucks County CLE**

- Faculty, Course materials Author (1994)

**Cornell University School of Law**

- ADR practice guest lecturer (2009)

**Delaware Valley College**

- Adjunct Faculty Business Law (2008 and 2009)
- Lecturer, Local Government (2006 – Present)

**League of Women Voters**

- Bucks County Annual Meeting – Economic Health of Bucks County (2010)

**Parent Coordinator Training**

- Faculty, Co-author course materials (2009)

**Soroptomist International of Bucks County**

- Keynote Speaker on Women and Economics (1997)

**William Penn Charter School**

- Capital Campaign Keynote Speaker, The Constitution Center, Philadelphia (2006)