



# NEWS RELEASE

FEDERAL MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICE  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
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Web site: [www.fmcs.gov](http://www.fmcs.gov)

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## **Statement by FMCS Director George H. Cohen On Labor Negotiations Between the ILWU Locals 4, 8, 19 & 23 And the Pacific Northwest Grain Handlers**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — “Upon the request of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS), the parties have agreed to resume negotiations under our auspices on October 29, 2012. Due to the sensitivity of this high profile dispute and consistent with the Agency’s longstanding practice, we will not disclose either the location of the meeting or the content of the substantive negotiations that will take place. In addition, the parties have agreed to an FMCS request that they refrain from any public comments regarding the status of negotiations conducted under our auspices.”

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*The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, created in 1947, is an independent U.S. government agency whose mission is to preserve and promote labor-management peace and cooperation. Headquartered in Washington, DC, with 10 district offices and 67 field offices, the agency provides mediation and conflict resolution services to industry, government agencies and communities.*