



HON. EDWARD F. KOLKER

Judge, San Diego Superior Court
(Retired)

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Judge Kolker graduated with distinction from the University of Iowa College of Law, where he served as Editor of the Iowa Law Review. His over 38 years in the legal profession includes service as a Municipal Court Judge, Chief Judge of the Juvenile Court, Chairman of the Iowa Public Employment Relations Board, Assistant United States Attorney (Civil Division) where he received the Director's Award For Outstanding Performance, and significant experience as a civil litigation attorney in private practice, including partnership in a major San Diego litigation law firm. Judge Kolker has served as Adjunct Professor of Law for National University College of Law, and as a judge pro tempore for San Diego County Municipal and Superior Courts.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION EXPERIENCE & EXPERTISE

Judge Kolker has mediated and arbitrated in the private sector full-time for 12 years, following 11 years of part-time ADR practice. For four of those years, Judge Kolker served as Chairman of the Iowa Public Employment Relations Board, a quasi-judicial agency responsible for labor-related mediation, fact-finding and arbitration, responsible for 450 school districts, 99 counties, numerous municipalities, and the state's major universities, amongst others. In 1989, he augmented his law practice with civil and family law mediation, and closed his private practice to practice ADR full-time in 1995.

Judge Kolker has mediated and arbitrated hundreds of disputes, with an emphasis on employment, business, estates and trusts, professional liability, negligence and real estate matters, including homeowners' disputes. Judge Kolker also facilitates negotiations between parties on contractual matters, business dissolutions, and intra-company personnel and policy disputes.

MEDIATION TRAINING & AFFILIATIONS

Judge Kolker has participated in over 500 hours of formal mediation training, including Negotiation and Mediation Workshops at Harvard Law School and the Straus Institute at Pepperdine. He has trained mediators in conjunction with the Academy of Dispute Resolution. He serves on mediation panels for the National Association of Securities Dealers, the Superior Court of San Diego County, the San Diego Association of Realtors, and also served on the select panel of arbitrators under the National Dalkon Shield Litigation Trust Program.

He is a Fellow in the International Academy of Mediators, and has also conducted meetings with mediators in Taiwan, The Philippines, Singapore and Hong Kong. In 2003, he conducted mediation workshops for the High Court Justices of India under sponsorship of the United States State Department and a private foundation. He is a former director of the Southern California Mediation Association, the San Diego Chapter of the Society of Professionals in Dispute Resolution (now Association of Conflict Resolution), and is active in local, state and national ADR organizations.