



## ROBERT S. MANN, ESQ.

### ADR EXPERIENCE

Well known and respected in the ADR profession, Robert Mann has successfully mediated over 250 significant construction defect, construction related breach of contract, delay and disruption, and change order disputes (including multi-party, multi-family, commercial and public works projects), real estate broker failure to disclose disputes, residential real estate breach of contract, home inspection disputes, wrongful termination, toxic tort wrongful death, entertainment and business tort disputes.

With a keen and quick comprehension of complex construction, real estate, and business issues earned after decades of litigation and ADR experience, Mr. Mann is particularly adept at resolving high-value, high-stakes, complicated and hotly contested matters.

### REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS: CONSTRUCTION

Representative cases include public works (Los Angeles Metro Rail), LAUSD construction disputes, numerous multi-family disputes in California and Nevada with settlement value in the tens of millions of dollars, luxury single family home disputes, commercial lease disputes. Mr. Mann has successfully mediated numerous multi-party construction disputes in California and Nevada involving residential, commercial and public works projects.

As an Arbitrator, Mr. Mann has handled cases involving commercial breach of lease, breach of contract, delay, disruption and construction defect in construction of middle school (25 day arbitration); breach of contract in construction of single family residence; specific performance of commercial purchase and sale agreement; commercial breach of contract for purchase of real property, construction defect single family residence claims. He has also acted as owner's representative for a multi-million dollar complex underground structure and as Court-appointed special master to oversee construction of new luxury single family home for owner who suffered catastrophic injury resulting in paralysis.

### LEGAL CAREER

1998-            President, The Mann Law Firm  
1993-1998    Partner, Colton Mann Partnership  
1979-1998    Partner, Fierstein & Sturman Law Corp.  
1977-1979    Deputy Los Angeles City Attorney

Mr. Mann has thirty years of experience in construction, real estate and business litigation, arbitration and mediation, including over 20 years substantial experience in litigation, arbitration and mediation of complex construction disputes. Nearly 100% of his practice was devoted to construction law matters, including representation of owners, developers, general contractors, subcontractors, specialty contractors, architects, and engineers.

His Experience includes all aspects of construction disputes, including construction defect, delay, disruption, mechanic's liens, change orders, private and public works, multi-family, multi-party, residential and commercial. Substantial technical expertise in building, including a thorough understanding of infrastructure (including dry and wet underground utilities), sewer systems, septic systems, soils and geotechnical issues, foundations, framing, fenestration, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, exterior plaster systems, roofing, waterproofing, civil engineering and mold.

He also served as an expert witness regarding the reasonableness of attorneys fees and standard of care in construction defect disputes, and is an author and lecturer on construction and construction mediation issues.

## **EDUCATION**

- (A.B., 1974) Stanford University
- (J.D. *cum laude*, 1977) Santa Clara University

## **ADR TRAINING**

- 2/2007 AAA Dealing With Delay Tactics in Arbitration
- 10/2005 Arbitration Awards: Safeguarding, Deciding and Writing Awards
- 11/2003 AAA Commercial Arbitrator II Training
- 10/2002 AAA Arbitrator I Training-Fundamental of the Arbitration Process
- 1996, 1997 Mediation Alliance, Basic and Advanced Mediation Training

## **AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

Complex Construction Defect, Business/Commercial, Real Estate, Class Action, Complex Litigation, Entertainment, Environmental, Insurance, Defamation, Government/Public Agency, Unfair Competition, Professional Liability

## **PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS**

- American Bar Association (Forum on Construction Law; Section on Litigation)
- Los Angeles County Bar Association
- Beverly Hills Bar Association
- Century City Bar Association
- Association of Business Trial Lawyers
- International Conference of Building Officials
- California Association of Community Managers
- Community Association Institute
- Contract Specifications Institute
- Architectural Aluminum Manufacturers Association
- Southern California Mediation Association

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- *Defect-Free Buildings A Construction Manual for Quality Control and Conflict Resolution* 2007, McGraw-Hill, New York, NY
- "10 Foolproof Ways to Lose Big At Arbitration," Los Angeles Daily Journal, 2004
- "What Happens When You Go To Arbitration?" The Journal of Light Construction, Hanley Wood Publications, October, 2004
- "What We Learn in Arbitrator School," Association of Business Trial Lawyers ABTL Report, Vol. XXVI, No.1, Fall 2003
- Author of numerous appellate briefs with two published decisions
- Columnist for the *Daily Journal* on construction issues

## **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

"The Architects Responsibility During Construction Administration," Construction Law Seminar, Construction Specifications Institute/AIA, September 29, 2007, "Effective Case Preparation for Commercial/Construction Mediation," The Absolute Mediator, Pepperdine University, November 5, 2005; 3rd Annual Avoiding and Resolving Construction Claims, LACBA, September 11, 2004; "ADR Advocacy, Preparing and Presenting Your Case, 2nd Annual Avoiding and Resolving Construction Claims, Pepperdine University, September 12, 2003; "Basics of Construction Defects," Century City Bar Association.