

MEDIATOR PROFILE – STEVEN RAY GARCIA, Lawyer

EDUCATION

College: Claremont McKenna College
Law School: UCLA School of Law
Mediation: Straus Institute of Dispute Resolution, Pepperdine School of Law; Univ. of Vermont School of Law

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

For more than 35 years, Steve Garcia has used his knowledge and insight to bring creative approaches to solving real estate problems. Besides being a lawyer, Steve is a mediator, having received rigorous training at the internationally renowned Straus Institute of Dispute Resolution both at Pepperdine School of Law and in conjunction with the University of Vermont School of Law. Steve is also a popular speaker, author, and public servant, having chaired the Planning Commission and the Public Works Commission in the City of South Pasadena and served the people of California on the Escrow Law Advisory Committee of the Department of Business Oversight. He has tried dozens of cases and argued more than fifty appeals in the California Courts of Appeal, the California Supreme Court, and the Federal appellate courts. Steve was a founding co-chair of the Escrow and Title Subsection of the Real Property Law Section of the State Bar of California, and he has taught Legal Aspects of Real Estate at the Community College level, has testified as an expert witness in real estate matters, and has authored legislation affecting California real estate. The Martindale-Hubbell® rating service has given Steve a peer rating of AV for the highest standards of ethics and legal ability, and 5.0 (Preeminent) client rating. Steve began his legal career working for the Legal Services Division of the California Association of Realtors®.

AFFILIATIONS

California State Bar # 110479
Attorney Member, Escrow Law Advisory Committee, California Department of Business Oversight, (September 2011 to 2015)
City of South Pasadena Planning Commission, Commissioner (2000-2005), Chairman (2003-2005)
City of South Pasadena Public Works Commission, Commissioner and Chairman (2013-2014)

STATEMENT

Steve believes a mediator's role is to be proactive, to bring fresh ideas, a fresh perspective, and energy to a mediation rather than simply "going through the motions." Experience teaches that disputes reach the verge of a law suit or beyond when the parties feel ignored, disrespected, or that their needs are not being addressed, and Steve works hard in mediation to overcome these obstacles to help the parties achieve their objectives.

FEES: \$396 per hour

SERVICE AREAS

All Southern California Counties. Travel reimbursement of \$4 per mile is required for travel of more than 20 miles RT. Online mediation services also available.

OFFICE LOCATION

Lake Avenue south of the 210 Freeway, Pasadena