

MEDIATOR PROFILE – Harold P. (Peter) Smith, Esq.

EDUCATION

Undergraduate Degree: A.B. Economics Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1982.

Law Degree: University Of San Francisco School Of Law, San Francisco, California, 1986.

ADR Training: Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, Getting to Yes – Harvard Negotiation Project, Roger Fisher, 1981.

University of California, Berkeley, University Extension, Certificate of Participation in Mediation and Conflict Resolution, Forty hours of instruction, September and October 2001.

Federal District Court, Northern District of California, Certificate of completion of the Court’s Mediation Training Program. March, 2011. Panelist, 2011 to present.

Contra Costa Superior Court, Discovery Facilitator, April, 2017 to present.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Peter Smith has represented parties to real estate transactions and disputes for almost 30 years. Mr. Smith has been active in mediating disputes in real estate purchases, sales, leasing, disclosure, and fraud, as well as disputes concerning, land use, construction, and corporate governance. In addition to serving as an advocate in hundreds of mediated sessions, Mr. Smith has extensive training and experience in conducting mediations as a neutral. Additional relevant experience includes serving on the Oakland Planning Commission from 1991 to 1996 where, as chair, he was tasked with transforming the commission into an interactive and responsive deliberative body. In his various roles, Mr. Smith demonstrated a capacity to listen, to understand all points of view, including the emotional underpinnings, to convey that understanding, and, ultimately, to reach a workable result.

AFFILIATIONS

- State Bar of California, 1986 to present, #126985
- Super Lawyers. 2014 to present.
- The Mediation Society of Northern California. 2016 to present.
- ADR Services, Inc. November 2021 to present

STATEMENT

Resolving disputes can be exhausting and expensive. Early dispute resolution through mediation cuts through most of the wear and cost. Often, disputes are grounded on issues that are below the surface and that need to be brought to light. Once all issues are brought forth and understood, I can assist the parties to reach a resolution that makes sense and avoids the time, cost, and wear and tear of litigation.

FEES: \$500 per hour

SERVICE AREAS

Alameda, San Francisco, Marin, Contra Costa, Napa, Sonoma, Santa Clara, San Mateo and Los Angeles counties (Downtown, Century City). No charge for travel within service areas.

Online mediation services available as well.

OFFICE LOCATION

Primary: Oakland, California.

DO NOT CONTACT MEDIATOR DIRECTLY. All mediations must be filed directly with our Center and questions for mediators pre-assignment should be arranged with our Center.