

JAMS Federal Judges



The former and retired federal judges at JAMS offer a wide range of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) services and are available to conduct in-person, virtual or hybrid hearings. They are all experienced in federal law issues such as securities, intellectual property and employment, and many have experience in other practice areas, including bankruptcy, admiralty and environmental law. A complete listing of all JAMS federal law mediators, arbitrators and dispute resolution professionals may be found at jamsadr.com/federal.

JAMS is steadfast in pursuing increased diversity among ADR practitioners. We recognize the benefits of recruiting and retaining ADR professionals inclusive of varied ethnicity, age, gender, religion, sexual orientation and disability. Learn more at jamsadr.com/diversity.

1ST CIRCUIT



Hon. Joan N. Feeney (Ret.) Judge Feeney served almost 27 years on the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts and 23 years on the U.S. Bankruptcy Appellate Panel for the First Circuit. She presided over, mediated and settled complex, multi-party commercial cases involving professional fee disputes, fraudulent transfer actions, closely held business disputes and business divorces, professional liability and real property matters. She wrote more than 500 opinions and handled hundreds of bench trials requiring oral and written decisions as well as more than 100 bankruptcy appeals involving all aspects of bankruptcy law and procedure.

2ND CIRCUIT



Hon. Michael H. Dolinger (Ret.) Judge Dolinger served for more than 31 years as a U.S. Magistrate Judge in the Southern District of New York, where he presided over pretrial, trial and settlement efforts in thousands of cases ranging from straightforward personal injury matters to massive class actions involving complex legal issues. He also served as Assistant U.S. Attorney in the Southern District of New York from 1976 to 1984, handling a broad range of cases, including constitutional challenges to statutes, attacks on agency regulations and actions, civil rights claims, tort claims and labor issues.



Hon. James "Jay" C. Francis IV (Ret.) Judge Francis served 32 years as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of New York, including a two-year term as chief magistrate judge. He conducted pretrial proceedings, mediated settlements and presided over trial in thousands of complex, high-profile disputes, including class actions and multi-district litigation. He handled cases involving financial markets, employment discrimination, wage and hour, product liability, civil rights, securities, admiralty, intellectual property and other commercial matters. He is nationally recognized as an expert on e-discovery and has authored numerous opinions on the issue.



Hon. Steven M. Gold (Ret.) Judge Gold served as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of New York for nearly three decades, including nine years as Chief Magistrate Judge. He presided over thousands of settlement conferences, pretrial proceedings, evidentiary hearings, and jury and bench trials involving a wide range of matters, including multi-district litigation and other large, complex, multi-party cases. He has significant experience resolving pharma, health care and life sciences matters as well as disputes involving business/commercial, civil rights, class action/mass tort, employment, intellectual property and insurance.



Hon. Theodore H. Katz (Ret.) Judge Katz served for 21 years as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of New York. During that period, he exercised the full range of judicial responsibilities in over 5,000 complex and other cases—supervising pre-trial activity, addressing discovery and attorneys' fee disputes, hearing substantive and procedural motions, and presiding over civil and criminal trials. Judge Katz also developed a reputation as an extraordinary facilitator of settlements. He hosted settlement conferences in more than 2,500 cases, covering the full spectrum of the federal court docket.



Hon. Frank Maas (Ret.) Judge Maas served for 17 years as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of New York, including two years as Chief Magistrate Judge. He presided over trials and thousands of settlement conferences, supervised pretrial discovery and heard dispositive and procedural motions. He previously served as First Deputy Commissioner of the New York City Department of Investigation, where he oversaw the City's internet security efforts. He also served as a federal prosecutor and a commercial litigator. Judge Maas gained an exemplary reputation for his settlement skills and use in electronic discovery issues.



Hon. Henry Pitman (Ret.) Judge Pitman spent more than 23 years as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of New York, serving as chief magistrate judge from 2008-2010. He presided over pretrial practice, settlement conferences and motion practice and issued thousands of decisions on dispositive and non-dispositive matters involving almost every type of case within the jurisdiction of the federal courts. As an assistant U.S. attorney, Judge Pitman tried 14 cases and argued six on appeal. He is available at JAMS to resolve employment, federal law, aviation, antitrust, intellectual property, business/commercial, civil rights and class action disputes.

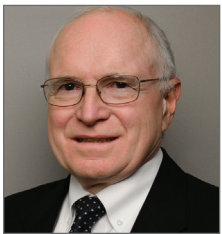


Hon. Kathleen A. Roberts (Ret.) Judge Roberts has been a mediator and arbitrator since 1995 in disputes involving commercial, employment, product liability, insurance, civil rights, securities, environmental and intellectual property cases. She also serves as a discovery master. She was a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of New York from 1985 to 1995. She is highly regarded for her skillful facilitation, careful neutral evaluation and persistence in resolving all types of disputes, as well as her ability to manage complex arbitrations and provide well-reasoned awards.

3RD CIRCUIT



Hon. Thomas M. Blewitt (Ret.) Judge Blewitt served as a Magistrate Judge of the U.S. District Court of the Middle District of Pennsylvania from 1992 to 2015, including a term as Chief Magistrate Judge from 2002 to 2010. During 23 years on the bench, he conducted jury trials, bench trials, settlement conferences and mediations in civil matters that arose on a regular basis in federal court. He earned a reputation as an experienced and skilled mediator who has successfully facilitated the settlement of hundreds of cases involving a wide variety of practice areas, including personal injury, business/commercial, civil rights, employment and product liability.



Hon. Garrett E. Brown, Jr. (Ret.) Judge Brown served 26 years as U.S. District Judge for the District of New Jersey, the last six as Chief Judge, where he led the court-wide effort to provide prompt, efficient justice to civil litigants, and to implement new local patent rules. During this period, he was designated by the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation to manage countless MDL cases, which resulted in numerous settlements. Prior to appointment to the federal judiciary, he served as Chief Counsel and Acting Administrator of the U.S. Maritime Administration and as General Counsel of the U.S. Government Printing Office.



Hon. John J. Hughes (Ret.) Judge Hughes, a former U.S. Magistrate Judge who joined JAMS in 2009, is a pioneer in the rapidly evolving field of electronic discovery. He participated in the formulation of one of the first local U.S. District Court rules for e-discovery and in a joint U.S. Courts Administrative Office/Department of Justice group that reported on electronic technology in the criminal justice system and recommended various innovations. Judge Hughes is highly regarded by counsel for skillfully settling complicated cases and for his ability to keep parties focused on the issues in order to reach an amicable resolution.



Hon. John C. Lifland (Ret.) Highly regarded for his exceptional ability to handle complex litigation, Judge Lifland is known to be a consummate professional who is well-prepared, knowledgeable and courteous. Prior to his 19 years of service as a U.S. District Judge for the District of New Jersey, he was in private practice for 27 years, concentrating on antitrust, employment, construction, banking, intellectual property and securities matters. He is a founding member and active participant of the John C. Lifland American Inn of Court, an association dedicated to fostering and developing the practice of intellectual property law and federal litigation.



Hon. James R. Melinson (Ret.) A retired Chief Magistrate Judge for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Judge Melinson has served as counsel, negotiator, mediator, arbitrator and judicial officer in a wide variety of cases. His broad background includes 16 years of distinguished judicial service on the federal and state courts and nearly 20 years of private law practice. Judge Melinson has extensive experience resolving a wide variety of complex matters, including admiralty, business/commercial, employment, insurance, intellectual property, professional malpractice, real estate, tax and securities disputes.



Hon. Thomas J. Rueter (Ret.) Judge Rueter served 26 years as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, including four years as Chief Magistrate Judge. He conducted 4,000 settlement conferences and handled complex class actions and high-profile multidistrict litigation involving hundreds of cases. He also served as the district court's employment dispute resolution coordinator. He is available as an arbitrator, mediator, special master and referee in cases involving business/commercial, antitrust, civil rights, class action/mass torts, cyber security & privacy, education, employment, franchise and e-discovery matters.



Hon. Gregory M. Sleet (Ret.) Judge Sleet served as a U.S. District Court Judge for the District of Delaware for 20 years, including seven years as chief judge, where he presided over 6,400 civil cases and wrote more than 1,200 opinions. He previously served as a U.S. Attorney, in-house counsel and in private practice. Judge Sleet is well-known for his extensive use in patent litigation, having handled more than 2,100 patent cases in a wide range of industries. He also has expertise in resolving disputes involving banking, bankruptcy, business/commercial, class action/mass torts, intellectual property, maritime and pharmaceutical/mass torts.



Hon. Diane M. Welsh (Ret.) A retired U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, Judge Welsh conducted nearly 1,800 settlement conferences during her 12 years of distinguished judicial service. She also served on the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee for the court for 10 years. Judge Welsh has successfully mediated virtually every type of civil case, including complex business/commercial, employment, intellectual property, construction, securities, civil rights, consumer and catastrophic personal injury cases.

4TH CIRCUIT



Hon. William G. Connelly (Ret.) Judge Connelly joined JAMS following more than 22 years of distinguished service as a Magistrate Judge for the U.S. District Court of Maryland, where he tried a number of bench and jury trials, including complex commercial, employment, construction, personal injury and insurance-related cases. Judge Connelly also presided over more than 1,800 settlement conferences, gaining a reputation for mediating difficult cases by treating every lawyer with respect, being incredibly prepared and exhibiting patience throughout the process.



Hon. Allyson K. Duncan (Ret.) Judge Duncan's trailblazing career includes 15 years on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, a year on the North Carolina Court of Appeals and three decades as a private litigator, utilities commissioner and appellate attorney and legal counsel for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). She has handled business/commercial, class action, employment, environmental, health care, intellectual property, international, product liability and utilities matters. She has earned a reputation as a veteran jurist with impeccable integrity, deep devotion to scholarship, a superior intellect and a first-class temperament.



Hon. Benson E. Legg (Ret.) Judge Legg, former Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland, brings deep experience to his full-time ADR practice. As a federal trial judge for 21 years, he presided over every type of complex civil case that comes before the federal courts. Before joining the bench, he spent 16 years as a business litigator with a major law firm, representing clients in a wide array of cases, including antitrust, breach of contract, civil rights, employment discrimination, insurance coverage, intellectual property, toxic torts and securities.



Hon. Frederic N. Smalkin (Ret.) Judge Smalkin (who holds an LL.M. in maritime law from the University of London and is an FAA-rated pilot) is a retired Chief U. S. District Judge for the District of Maryland, with 26 years of active judicial service as a U.S. Magistrate and District Judge. He has successfully mediated many hundreds of contentious cases, including maritime and aviation matters. Since joining JAMS, he has undertaken arbitrations in numerous difficult commercial and consumer cases and has rendered neutral case evaluations involving complex state and federal issues.



Hon. Ricardo M. Urbina (Ret.) Judge Urbina spent more than three decades on the District of Columbia federal and superior courts. Most recently, he served 18 years as a judge for the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, issuing well over 1,000 memorandum opinions. In 1981, he became the first Latino to be appointed to the bench in the District of Columbia. During his 13 years on the superior court, he garnered distinction for his handling of complex civil and criminal litigation. He managed one of the court's most demanding trial assignments, handling a complex civil litigation calendar and heading the court's Family Division. Judge Urbina is fluent in Spanish.

5TH CIRCUIT



Hon. Vanessa D. Gilmore (Ret.) Judge Gilmore joined JAMS in Houston after a distinguished 27-year career as a U.S. District Judge in the Southern District of Texas. Sworn in as the youngest sitting federal judge in the nation, Judge Gilmore went on to develop extensive experience in handling matters involving patents and copyrights, labor and employment and securities class actions. She has issued important decisions on intellectual property, products liability, securities fraud, energy and utilities, insurance and environmental law and has handled significant matters, including the trial of the *Enron Broadband* case and the building of the Galveston cruise ship terminal.



Hon. Harlin DeWayne Hale (Ret.) Judge Hale presided over thousands of cases and authored over 160 opinions on the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas, where he served for almost 20 years, including a two-year term as chief judge. His distinguished career also includes two decades in private practice, culminating with his service as regional partner in charge of the bankruptcy practice at Baker & McKenzie in Dallas just prior to being appointed to the bench. Judge Hale is available as a mediator, arbitrator and neutral evaluator in disputes involving banking, bankruptcy, business/commercial, federal and real property matters.



Hon. Nancy Johnson (Ret.) Judge Johnson served 30 years as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Southern District of Texas, where she authored hundreds of opinions on most areas of federal practice and settled hundreds of cases. She previously served as an assistant U.S. attorney handling employment, tort and regulatory cases, pursuing statutory enforcement and forfeiture actions and prosecuting white-collar and tax offenses. Known for her strong legal writing and ability to cut to the heart of a dispute, she resolves business/commercial, civil rights, cybersecurity & privacy, employment, governmental/public agency, intellectual property, insurance and maritime & admiralty law.



Hon. Jeff Kaplan (Ret.) Judge Kaplan served for nearly 20 years as a federal and state court judge. During his 18 years as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Texas, Judge Kaplan presided over more than 60 jury trials and authored more than 2,100 opinions and recommendations in a variety of civil cases, including intellectual property, class action, employment, personal injury, civil rights, insurance and complex business disputes. He is highly respected for his integrity, impartiality and ability to quickly grasp and analyze complicated legal issues.



Hon. Michael H. Schneider, Sr. (Ret.) Judge Schneider served as U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas from 2004 to 2016 and as a Judge of the Supreme Court of Texas from 2002 to 2004. Judge Schneider is known for his good judgment, integrity, keen intelligence and fortitude. In addition to his tenure on the bench, Judge Schneider gained diverse and unique experience practicing law for 20 years, including six years as Vice President, General Counsel of Bawden Drilling International Ltd. (later acquired by Noble Drilling) and five years as an attorney at Dresser Industries. He was responsible for managing litigation worldwide at both companies.

6TH CIRCUIT



Gerald E. Rosen (Retired Chief Judge, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan)

During 26 years of distinguished service on the federal bench, Mr. Rosen gained extensive experience facilitating settlements, including highly complex multi-district litigation matters and class actions. Most recently, he served as the Chief Judicial Mediator for the Detroit Bankruptcy case—the largest, most complex municipal bankruptcy in our nation’s history—which resulted in an agreed-upon, consensual plan of adjustment in just 17 months. Prior to taking the bench, Mr. Rosen was a Senior Partner at the law firm of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone.



Phillip J. Shefferly (Retired Chief Judge, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Michigan)

Judge Shefferly served for over a decade as chief judge during his 18-year tenure on one of the heaviest bankruptcy court dockets in the U.S. He conducted hundreds of bench trials and motion hearings in consumer and commercial cases and presided over large chapter 11 cases in a wide range of industries, including automotive, manufacturing, single asset and other real property, retail, professional services, hospitality, nursing home and health care. He also spent 24 years in private practice focused on business reorganizations and chapter 11 matters.

7TH CIRCUIT



Hon. Wayne R. Andersen (Ret.) Judge Andersen served as a U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois for 19 years and as a state court trial judge for seven years. He is an active and effective settlement judge who has brokered numerous settlements in a wide range of complex cases. He conducted thousands of settlement conferences during his tenure on both the federal and state benches. Judge Andersen once ran a streak of seven consecutive jury trials that began but settled during the trial. Counsel praise his superb people skills, exceptional legal knowledge and his well-written, legally sound and timely rulings.



Hon. Geraldine Soat Brown (Ret.) Judge Brown served as a Magistrate Judge for the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois for 16 years, including four years as Presiding Magistrate Judge. During her time on the bench, Judge Brown presided over thousands of civil cases in both pretrial and trial stages, including jury and bench trials in breach of contract, employment, civil rights, tort and civil RICO cases. She has mediated over 2,000 settlement conferences in virtually every substantive area of law. She is known as a decisive and even-tempered jurist, qualities that serve her well in mediation.



Hon. Charles N. Clevert, Jr. (Ret.) Judge Clevert has 40 years of distinguished service on the federal bench, where he presided over and successfully settled complex litigation cases in a wide range of practice areas. He was appointed to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin, in 1977 as the nation’s youngest federal bankruptcy judge and Wisconsin’s first African American federal judge. He was appointed District Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin in 1996, serving as Chief Judge from 2009-2012. He specializes in resolving bankruptcy, business/commercial, civil rights, employment, federal, personal injury/torts and securities matters.



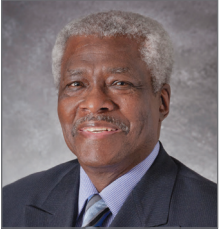
Hon. David H. Coar (Ret.) Praised by the bar for his excellent legal ability, integrity and independence, Judge Coar served as U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois for 16 years. He tried and settled hundreds of cases involving the full array of matters subject to federal jurisdiction, including class action MDL and mass torts. He served as a U.S. Bankruptcy Judge for eight years, overseeing large corporate reorganizations and bankruptcy cases. He also served as the first U.S. Bankruptcy Trustee in the Northern District of Illinois from 1979 to 1982.



Hon. Morton Denlow (Ret.) Judge Denlow joined JAMS following 16 years of distinguished service as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Illinois. Nationally recognized for his settlement expertise, he has conducted over 2,000 settlement conferences and tried a number of bench trials in complex commercial cases. Prior to his appointment to the federal bench in 1996, Judge Denlow was actively engaged for 24 years as a trial and appellate lawyer in complex commercial litigation, including 10 years as an active arbitrator and mediator.



Hon. James Holderman (Ret.) Retired U.S. District Chief Judge James Holderman joins JAMS after serving for 30 years on the federal bench in Chicago, where he resolved more than 10,000 cases in all areas of federal jurisdiction. He conducted hundreds of successful pre-trial mediation conferences and hundreds of trials. Judge Holderman also was selected by the U.S. Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation to coordinate and resolve numerous complex, class action, multi-district cases. He is widely respected for his work ethic, practical approach, legal knowledge and wealth of experience, especially in intellectual property, class action and complex cases.



Hon. Arlander Keys (Ret.) Judge Keys served for nearly two decades as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Illinois. During his time on the bench, Judge Keys presided over thousands of matters in both the pre-trial and trial stages of litigation. In civil matters, his focus was on the supervision of pre-trial discovery and conducting settlement conferences in cases referred to him by district judges. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Keys practiced as a labor lawyer with the National Labor Relations Board and, later, as Regional Counsel for the Federal Labor Relations Authority, where his primary focus was on settling cases.



Hon. Michael T. Mason (Ret.) Judge Mason joined JAMS in Chicago in February 2019 after 17 years of distinguished service as a magistrate judge for the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. During his time on the bench, Judge Mason presided over thousands of civil and criminal cases in both trial and pre-trial stages, including jury and bench trials in civil rights, employment, complex commercial, intellectual property and tort actions. Before his appointment to the bench, Judge Mason served for over 24 years as staff attorney and then chief trial attorney for the Federal Defender Program in the Northern District of Illinois.



Hon. Michael J. Reagan (Ret.) Judge Reagan spent nearly two decades on the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Illinois, serving as chief judge from 2015 to 2019. He managed more than 5,000 civil cases and settled cases valued at more than \$2 billion. As a jurist in one of the busiest courts in the country for class action litigation, he gained extensive experience managing multi-district litigation involving mass torts, mass actions and pharmaceutical and product liability matters. Judge Reagan also sat by designation on the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, where he wrote several opinions, and tried scores of cases as a litigator.



Hon. Sidney I. Schenkier (Ret.) Judge Schenkier served for more than 20 years as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, including two terms as presiding magistrate judge. He presided over approximately 40 jury trials, bench trials and preliminary injunction hearings, which included cases raising patent and trademark claims, employment law claims, constitutional claims, medical malpractice and other personal injury claims, trade secrets claims and other business disputes. In addition, he has mediated more than 2,000 cases involving a broad array of federal and state law claims, including major class action and multidistrict litigation.



Hon. Donald G. Wilkerson (Ret.) Judge Wilkerson served for more than 15 years as a Magistrate Judge for the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Illinois. He presided over thousands of matters in all stages of litigation, conducted bench trials by agreement of the parties, handled discovery disputes and issued reports and recommendations on dispositive motions. He also conducted settlement conferences in over 1,000 cases. Judge Wilkerson previously served as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Eastern District of Missouri, successfully arguing matters before panels of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit and the Eighth Circuit Court *en banc*.

8TH CIRCUIT



Hon. James M. Rosenbaum (Ret.) Judge Rosenbaum served 25 years on the federal bench as a U.S. District Judge for the District of Minnesota and, for the four years prior, as Minnesota's U.S. Attorney. While on the bench, he presided over the construction of the Minneapolis Federal Courthouse, the most technologically advanced courthouse of its time. He served as Chief Judge of the District, represented the Eighth Circuit at the Judicial Conference for eight years and served on the conference's Executive Committee.



Hon. Janice M. Symchych (Former) Ms. Symchych is a veteran ADR professional and federal courts practitioner with more than three decades of legal and judicial experience. A former U.S. Magistrate Judge from 1985 to 1989, she most recently served as Deputy General Counsel—Litigation at Medtronic, Inc., where she was responsible for company litigation worldwide, including intellectual property, multi-district and class actions, product liability, government enforcement actions and investigations, regulatory litigation and commercial and employment litigation, as well as advising on litigation risks.

9TH CIRCUIT



Hon. Wayne D. Brazil (Ret.) Judge Brazil has an international reputation as one of the most significant innovators and leaders in ADR. He is adept at crafting procedures to meet the needs of individual cases and in finding new directions when movement toward settlement seems to stall. Judge Brazil spent 25 years as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of California. In addition to his extensive work as a settlement judge and on complex discovery matters, Judge Brazil hosted more than 2,000 settlement conferences and served as the court's first ADR Magistrate Judge, a position he occupied for more than 15 years.



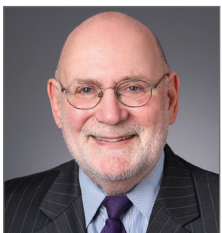
Hon. Rosalyn Chapman (Ret.) Judge Chapman has enjoyed a long and well-respected career as a federal judge. She has conducted more than 400 settlement conferences, handled a wide range of civil matters and managed discovery and related proceedings in thousands of cases, including multi-district litigation. Judge Chapman served as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Central District of California for almost 16 years and then was recalled to serve in the district courts for the Northern District of California and Arizona.



Hon. Jay C. Gandhi (Ret.) Judge Gandhi served eight years as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Central District of California. He received multiple honors for his judicial qualities and skills, and oversaw the court's Alternative Dispute Resolution program. He was also an active, hands-on trial judge, known for his commitment to justice. At JAMS he is sought after for his thorough, insightful and fiercely impartial approach to every matter. Parties turn to Judge Gandhi to tirelessly and fairly broker deals in complex business disputes, whether headline-making mass torts and class actions, complicated health care, or sensitive intellectual property and entertainment cases.



Hon. Irma E. Gonzalez (Ret.) Judge Gonzalez was appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California in 1992, serving as Chief Judge from 2005 to 2012. Prior to that, she was an assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona and an attorney in private practice. She later served as a U.S. Magistrate Judge and a San Diego County Superior Court Judge. Highly regarded for her fairness and knowledge of the law, Judge Gonzalez serves as an arbitrator, mediator and special master for cases involving a wide range of issues, including business, class action, employment, intellectual property and securities matters.



Hon. Stephen E. Haberfeld (Ret.) A former U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Central District of California, and former Assistant Watergate Special Prosecutor, Judge Haberfeld has successfully managed and resolved a wide spectrum of challenging matters, including financial, business/commercial, intellectual property, entertainment, employment, securities, insurance and antitrust cases. A respected arbitrator, mediator and special master of complex and contentious disputes since 1992, he has served on prestigious "blue ribbon" panels for large, complex commercial and securities disputes and as a Settlement Judge of the Nevada Supreme Court.



Hon. Carl W. Hoffman (Ret.) Judge Hoffman handled hundreds of mediations, settlement conferences and trials during eight years on the U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada. He served as General Counsel of the Clark County School District for over 15 years, litigating cases in state and federal courts. Judge Hoffman arbitrated employment issues as a Nevada Department of Personnel Hearing Officer and litigated civil, criminal and administrative matters as a U.S. Marine Corps judge advocate. He specializes in business/commercial, civil rights, construction, education, employment, intellectual property, personal injury and real property matters.



Hon. Edward A. Infante (Ret.) Judge Infante served nearly three decades on California’s U.S. District Courts and has more than 35 years of dispute resolution experience. He has conducted more than 4,000 settlement conferences and mediations in all types of civil litigation, with particular expertise in business litigation, employment, intellectual property, securities and antitrust cases. Judge Infante has also settled more than 750 class and mass actions. He is widely respected for his knowledge of the law, sharp business acumen, objectivity and persistent efforts to resolve disputes.



Hon. George H. King (Ret.) Judge King served for 21 years as a U.S. District Judge for the Central District of California, including four years as Chief Judge. He presided over and settled a wide range of complex civil cases involving securities fraud, intellectual property, business/contractual, employment, civil rights, constitutional law, insurance and state and federal class actions. His decision in the class action challenging the validity of the claimed copyright to the song “Happy Birthday” received international attention. His 40-year career also includes service as a U.S. Magistrate Judge and the Chief Magistrate Judge of the Court, as well as 10 years in private practice.



Hon. Elizabeth D. Laporte (Ret.) Judge Laporte spent over two decades as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of California, serving as Chief U.S. Magistrate Judge from 2013-2015. She presided over one of the nation’s largest civil caseloads handled by magistrate judges with the parties’ consent through summary judgment or trial. Judge Laporte is respected as a thought leader in the field of intellectual property who helped shape case law on patent, other IP and e-discovery law. She also resolves business/commercial, employment, class action/mass tort, environmental, insurance, antitrust and civil rights disputes.



Hon. Peggy A. Leen (Ret.) Judge Leen conducted more than 900 settlement conferences and early neutral evaluations and handled case management, discovery and non-dispositive motions during 18 years on the U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada. She also litigated complex, multi-party matters as a trial lawyer for two decades. An effective settlement judge with a firm grasp of the facts and applicable law, Judge Leen is known for her innovative approaches and ability to handle emotionally-charged, difficult cases, including business/commercial, civil rights, employment, insurance, intellectual property, personal injury/torts and professional liability matters.



Hon. Carlos R. Moreno (Ret.) Justice Moreno’s distinguished 25-year judicial career includes 10 years on the California Supreme Court, where he authored more than 140 majority opinions on a wide range of precedent-setting cases, including significant opinions implicating LGBT rights, arbitration and insurance policy coverage. He also served 15 years as a trial judge in state and federal courts, presiding over hundreds of trials covering the full spectrum of criminal and civil litigation. Most recently, Justice Moreno served as U.S. Ambassador to Belize, focusing on citizen protection, economic development and governance.



Hon. Margaret A. Nagle (Ret.) During 18 years as U.S. Magistrate Judge in the high-volume Central District of California, Judge Nagle served as a settlement judge and presided over hundreds of diverse matters, including entertainment, employment, intellectual property, civil rights, business and tort matters. Before being appointed to the bench, Judge Nagle spent more than 20 years as a trial lawyer litigating product liability, intellectual property, employment, insurance, environmental, antitrust, malpractice and business/commercial matters.



Hon. S. James Otero (Ret.) Judge Otero served 30 years as a federal and state court judge in Los Angeles. He sat by designation on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and is one of only two Central District Court judges to sit on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. During 16 years on the district court, he presided over hundreds of trials and settlement conferences, including patent, trademark, copyright, defective product, catastrophic injury, securities, employment and antitrust class actions and multi-district litigation. He was regularly sought out by colleagues to settle complex disputes where prior settlement conferences proved unsuccessful.



Hon. Philip M. Pro (Ret.) Judge Pro served as a U.S. District Judge for the District of Nevada for 27 years, including five years as Chief Judge, presiding over a full range of complex cases, including class actions and multi-district litigation. As the only full-time U.S. Magistrate Judge in Las Vegas from 1980 to 1987, he presided over pre-trial matters and settlement conferences in virtually all civil cases filed in federal court, including the MGM Grand Hotel fire litigation. He specializes in resolving antitrust, business/commercial, employment, environmental, governmental/public agency, intellectual property, personal injury/torts and securities matters.



Hon. Gary L. Taylor (Ret.) Judge Taylor served with distinction for nearly 20 years on both the state and federal judiciaries, where he presided over many high-profile cases, including a variety of lawsuits with billions of dollars in controversy. He enjoys a reputation as an exceptional jurist known for his integrity, patience, intellect and ability to grasp complex issues. Counsel have described Judge Taylor as a judge who is always fair and extremely ethical and who issues rulings that have a sound basis in law.



Hon. Dickran M. Tevrizian (Ret.) Judge Tevrizian is best known for his ability to bring disparate groups together in even the most difficult situations when parties are unyielding. He takes an active role in case management and in settling cases. Recipient of numerous awards and recognized as a “shining star, great judge, kind human being and 13 or 14 on a scale of 10,” Judge Tevrizian is widely respected for doing the right thing according to existing law. He served 31 years of his 41-year legal career on both the federal and the state trial courts, with his most recent 21 years on the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.



Hon. James Ware (Ret.) Judge Ware served for 24 years as a judge. He served as a U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of California for 22 years, which included a year and a half as the Chief Judge. Previously, he served as Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge. Judge Ware has presided over numerous cases involving patent infringement, securities fraud, antitrust, contract disputes, employment law and various statutory actions, and brings a wealth of experience to his work that is derived from his management and resolution of thousands of cases across a wide variety of subjects.

10TH CIRCUIT



Hon. William F. Downes (Ret.) Judge Downes served for 17 years as a U.S. District Judge for the District of Wyoming, including 12 years as Chief Judge. He has extensive experience presiding over both bench and jury trials in areas such as product liability, energy, civil rights, catastrophic personal injury and professional liability. Judge Downes has handled numerous high-profile cases in multiple states. Praised by counsel for being extremely prepared and having a quick grasp of complex issues, Judge Downes has an innate ability to understand the reputations, emotions and ongoing dynamics while still moving the case to resolution.



Hon. Deanell Tacha (Ret.) Judge Tacha served with distinction for more than 20 years on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, including seven years as Chief Judge. On her retirement from the federal judiciary in 2011, Judge Tacha was named Dean of the Pepperdine University School of Law. An effective collaborator, she is known for her keen intellect, creative problem solving and ability to grasp issues quickly. Judge Tacha has extensive experience in disputes involving administrative law, appellate, civil rights, education/schools, employment, environmental, federal, governmental/public agency, Indian law, personal injury/torts and real property matters.

11TH CIRCUIT



Ted E. Bandstra (Retired U.S. Magistrate Judge) After serving as a U.S. Magistrate Judge in Miami for more than 23 years, Ted. E. Bandstra has distinguished himself as both a federal trial judge and neutral in more than 5,000 cases, including matters involving employment law, intellectual property, admiralty and maritime claims, securities law, complex commercial issues and many other areas of law. He has successfully resolved hundreds of cases in many of these areas, resulting in amicable settlements in even the most complex matters.



Hon. Stanley F. Birch, Jr. (Ret.) Judge Birch served as a U.S. Circuit Judge on the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals for more than 20 years, authoring more than 3,000 opinions and participating in more than 11,000 decisions. Judge Birch was instrumental in establishing the mediation office at the Eleventh Circuit and has been involved in the resolution of hundreds of civil disputes. He is a registered neutral with the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution. In addition to his extensive mediation and arbitration experience as a JAMS neutral, Judge Birch has also heard a number of mock oral arguments.

FEDERAL COURT OF CANADA



Hon. Roger T. Hughes (Ret.) Justice Hughes joined JAMS after more than a decade of experience as a judge on the Federal Court (Canada). Recognized for his expertise in intellectual property matters, Justice Hughes brings the perspective of a longtime federal practitioner—as advocate, judge and neutral—to each of his matters. Justice Hughes is a Registered Patent Agent, Past President of the Intellectual Property Association of Canada and Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and the Intellectual Property Institute of Canada.



Hon. Konrad von Finckenstein, Q.C. Justice von Finckenstein is an arbitrator of complex Canadian and international business disputes in both institutional and ad hoc settings. He has held a number of prominent positions, including Justice of the Federal Court of Canada from 2003 to 2007, Commissioner of Competition and Chair of the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission, where he acquired broad experience in matters involving dispute resolution, business and commercial law, international trade, competition, telecommunications and administrative law.