



Daniel I. Spector, Esq.



Results Beyond DisputeSM

Dan has been a civil litigator for more than 30 years, of which he has focused his practice on trust, estate, and family disputes for more than 26 years. He is well-known among his peers and colleagues as a smart, trustworthy, and fair negotiator, with excellent interpersonal skills. As a result, he has been requested to serve as a mediator, arbitrator, and referee in more than 200 matters in almost every type of dispute involving trust and estates, including claims for elder financial and physical abuse, undue influence, lack of capacity, contested conservatorships, legal and accounting malpractice, wrongful death and various personal injuries. In addition, Dan has mediated cases involving various family law issues such as the characterization of assets and allegations of spousal breach of duty. Dan has facilitated the creation, adoption, and effectuation of difficult and/or complex family succession plans. Dan has further helped to settle multiple cases involving complex business and real estate disputes which have included claims for breach of fiduciary duty, breach of contract, title disputes, and buyer-seller disputes. Since 2020, Dan has also served as Pro Tem in the Sacramento County Superior Court's Civil Settlement Conference Department and its Probate Division. Dan was part of the original bench-Bar committee that established a mediation panel in the Probate Division. Dan is a subject matter expert in the field of trust and estate law. He serves on the Executive Committee for the Trusts and Estates Section of the California Lawyers Association ("TEXCOM"), has been designated as a SuperLawyer in the field of Trust and Estate Litigation since 2010, and has been named Best of Bar for Trusts and Estates and ADR in the Sacramento Region since 2019. As a neutral, Dan has earned a reputation for his deep knowledge of trusts and estates and for having a thoughtful, pragmatic, and effective approach to resolution. One attorney commented, "Dan is a compassionate and patient mediator. He has a gift of flexibility and can adapt to any situation which allows a path of resolution." Another said, "I have chosen Dan to settle several matters for our firm because he has a deep understanding of trust and estate litigation. Many times, these matters are emotional and contentious; he handles all the parties with care and knows how to make them feel comfortable and focused on resolution."

LEGAL CAREER & PRIOR EXPERIENCE

- Neutral, Judicate West (2020-Present)
- Partner, Hanson Bridgett, LLP (2023-Present); Chair, Family Wealth Dispute and Resolution ("FWRD") Team
- Partner, Law Office of Daniel I. Spector (2016-2023)
- Partner, Spector Weir, LLP (2009-2015)
- Senior Partner, Spector, Middleton, Young and Minney (1997-2008)
- Junior Partner, Thompson, Meade & Nielsen (1997)
- Judge Pro Tem, Probate Division, Sacramento Superior Court (2000 – Present)
- Pro Tem Settlement Conference Judge, Sacramento Superior Court (2000 – Present)

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- J.D. Santa Clara University School of Law (1992)
- B.A. University of California, Davis, magna cum laude (1989)
- Center for Collaborative Solutions, Certified Mediator (2009)
- Justice Anthony M. Kennedy Library and Learning Center, Board Member (2018-Present)
- Sacramento County Bar Association -Litigation, Probate, and ADR Sections, Member (1993-Present)
- California Lawyers Association, Trust and Estate Section (TEXCOM), Executive Committee (2019-Present)
- California Lawyers Association – Trust and Estate Section, Member (1997-Present)
- Boys & Girls Club of Greater Sacramento, Board President and Member (1994-

PRACTICE AREAS

- 2002)
- Sacramento Superior Court – Probate Division, Bench-Bar Committee

All Types of Probate including Trust/Estate; Business/Contractual (Breach of Fiduciary Duty, Contractual); Contested Conservatorships ; Elder Care Law ; Family Law; Professional Negligence Regarding Estate Planning ; Real Estate (Buy-Sell, Co-tenancy/Co-ownership Disputes, Title); Trust/Estate Litigation

ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

- Named Top Rated Estate & Trust Litigation Attorney, Super Lawyers (2010, 2016-2020)
- Named Sacramento Top Lawyers (2019, 2021)
- The Ethics Guide to the California Rules of Professional Conduct for Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Counsel, Fourth Ed. (2020), California Lawyers Association- Contributing Editor.
- MCLE for Alameda County Bar Association (ACBA), "Best (and Latest) Practices in Trust and Estate/Elder Financial Abuse Mediations" (July 2021)

HOBBIES & INTERESTS

Dan is the chairperson of Hanson Bridgett, LLP's statewide trust and estate litigation team (also known as The Family Wealth Resolution and Dispute "FWRD" Team. In his spare time, Dan enjoys spending time with family and friends doing a variety of outdoor activities including golf and tennis.

LOCATIONS

Northern California, All of California