



Hon. Herbert B. Hoffman, Ret.



Results Beyond DisputeSM

Since 1998, Judge Herbert Hoffman has utilized his experience as a judge and trial lawyer to serve as a mediator, arbitrator, and private judge in a wide range of state and federal matters. During his tenure on the Superior Court in San Diego, he was appointed to the Federal Judicial Council, a role he was well suited for, having tried cases throughout the country for the Department of Justice and the U.S. Attorney's Office. Judge Hoffman has successfully resolved thousands of cases involving real estate, personal injury, professional liability, employment, medical malpractice, class action, insurance coverage, and bad faith plus business/commercial disputes including an international multi-million dollar case involving disputed royalties, before the International Court of Commerce in Paris. He also is frequently selected as a special master or discovery referee in numerous civil matters including the 'coordinated latex glove litigation' and multi-district litigation cases. The depth of Judge Hoffman's legal, judicial, and ADR experience is immense. He has earned a reputation as a Judge who has encountered just about everything, a straight shooter, and a strong agent of reality. One prominent San Diego trial lawyer noted, "If the most important thing is truly to get your case settled, he's the go-to guy in this town." Many lawyers concur.

LEGAL CAREER & PRIOR EXPERIENCE

- Neutral, Judicate West (2009-Present)
- Full-Time Mediation, Arbitration and Private Judging Practice (1998-Present)
- Judge, San Diego Superior Court (1985-1998)
- Senior Litigation Attorney, San Diego US Attorney's Office (1980-1985)
- Adjunct Professor, University of San Diego Masters of Law Program (1979-1986)
- Litigating Attorney, Sachs, Greenbaum & Taylor in Washington D.C. (1973-1974)
- Assistant US Attorney, Washington D.C. (1969-73)

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- J.D., DePaul University School of Law (1967)
- B.A., University of Iowa, Business Administration (1964)
- San Diego County Judges Association, Past President (1994-95)
- California State Federal Judicial Council, Member (1988-96)
- American Business Trial Lawyers, San Diego Chapter, Board Member Emeritis
- William B. Enright American Inn of Court, Master
- Clifford Wallace American Inn of Court, Master

PRACTICE AREAS

All Types of Personal Injury Matters; Business/Commercial; Employment including Sexual Harassment; Insurance Coverage/Bad Faith; Medical Malpractice; Professional Liability; Real Estate

ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

- While on special assignment with the Fourth District Court of Appeal in 1995, Judge Hoffman developed an innovative settlement program for pending appellate cases.
- Additionally, he has lectured on trial techniques at the Attorney General Trial Advocacy School, University of San Diego-School of Law, the National Institute for Trial Advocacy and the National College of District Attorneys.
- He has also lectured on settlement techniques at various California Judicial education programs and other organizations in the legal community.
- Judge Hoffman was selected by the Daily Journal as one of California's Top Neutral's in 2009, 2012, and 2013.
- He has been the recipient of numerous awards including the highly coveted, John Marshall Litigation Award (1983) and other awards from the United States Department of Justice for his outstanding service as a trial attorney.

**HOBBIES &
INTERESTS**

In his spare time, Judge Hoffman enjoys golfing, thoroughbred racing and dancing.

LOCATIONS

San Diego, All of California