



Hon. Judy Hersher, Ret.



Results Beyond DisputeSM

With two decades of experience on the Sacramento County Superior Court bench, and advanced training in mediation, Judge Hersher has presided over hundreds of civil litigation matters, including business and corporate disputes, all types of employment matters including false claims, Qui Tam, and state actions, eminent domain, wrongful death, environmental, insurance, and civil rights. She is now available for mediation, arbitration, and private judging assignments, including neutral cases, testimony, and evidence evaluation. Prior to becoming a judge, she was a litigation partner with Downey Brand LLP and tried cases representing both sides in many facets of law. During this time, she participated in court ADR programs, including serving as Judge Pro Tem for the Sacramento County Superior Court settlement department and as an Early Neutral Evaluator for the U.S. District Court, Eastern District. Over the course of her 37 years in law, Judge Hersher has earned a reputation for fairness and firmness with an unprecedented work ethic. She shares her mission as a private judge stating, "My goals are to provide a collaborative and collegial process through which disputes are resolved with engaged support, and all aspects of the process are founded in neutrality, integrity, respect, legal scholarship, and decisiveness."

LEGAL CAREER & PRIOR EXPERIENCE

- Full-time Neutral, Judicate West (2021-Present)
- Judge, Sacramento Superior Court (2000-2021); Served in civil, complex, law and motion, and writs
- Litigation Partner, Downey, Brand, Seymour & Rohwer LLP (1984-2000); Areas of law included contracts, eminent domain, real estate, personal injury and employment discrimination.

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Strauss Institute for Dispute Resolution, Pepperdine/Caruso School of Law, Mediating the Litigated Case: The Art of Facilitating Settlement (August 2022)
- J.D. University of California, Davis Martin Luther King School of Law (1984)
- M.A. Fellowship, Georgetown University (1975)
- B.A. State University of New York - Albany, New York, English, Magna Cum Laude (1972)
- Sacramento County Grand Jury Advisor (Effective January 2020)
- California Judicial Council Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions (2012-2021)
- California State Federal Judicial Council (2012-2021)
- Leonard M. Friedman Bar Association, Founder, and Judicial Chair (2009-2015)
- Judicial Master, Anthony M. Kennedy Inns of Court, Sacramento (2000-2013); Life Member (1991-Present)
- California Judicial Council Advisory Committee on Access and Fairness (2005–2007)
- Standing Committee on Gender, Race, Religious and Ethnic Fairness, United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit (1999–2000)
- Sacramento Women Lawyers, Member (1984-Present)

PRACTICE AREAS

Business/Contractual including Digital Asset and Cryptocurrency, Corporation, and Partnership Litigation; Civil Rights; Elder Abuse ; Employment ; Environmental; Personal Injury including Child Abuse/Sexual Assault; Professional Malpractice ; Real Estate

ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

- Recognition for Founding and Success, Leonard M. Friedman Bar Association (2021)
- Trial Judge of the Year, American Board of Trial Advocates, Sacramento Region (2017)
- Trial Judge of the Year, Capital City Trial Lawyers Association (2015)

HOBBIES & INTERESTS

- Trial Judge of the Year, Sacramento County Bar Association (2012)
- Justice Frances Newell Carr Achievement Award for Advancing the Rights of Women and Children in the Law, Women Lawyers of Sacramento (2003)
- Humanitarian of the Year, Sacramento County Bar Association (2000)
- Bayard Rustin Award for Civil Rights, Creation, Sacramento Area Hate Crimes Task Force, Sacramento (1995)

Throughout the decades, Judge Hersher continues to dedicate her time as an instructor, panelist, and author on a myriad of topics in civil law and proceedings in trial for colleges, law schools, bar groups, courts, and judges. She is also involved in many charitable organizations within the local community. In her spare time, she enjoys hikes, travel, and landscape design.

LOCATIONS

Northern California, All of California