



Hon. Lesley D. Holland, Ret.



Results Beyond DisputeSM

Judge Holland joins Judicate West following a distinguished legal career and drawing upon his 45 years of diverse experience as a trial judge, discovery referee, civil litigator and mediator to help parties find resolution. He has handled more than 300 mediations and been a part of thousands of resolutions, settlements and verdicts. Following more than 22 years of service, Judge Holland retired from the San Joaquin County Superior Court in 2019. During his judicial tenure, he was elected as the Presiding Judge in 2014 and previously served as the court's first Supervising Judge for the Civil Division in 2011. He has spent the last several years as Of Counsel at Herum Crabtree Suntag Attorneys, devoted to alternative dispute resolution services in civil matters with emphasis on probate/trusts and estates, business/contractual, construction, employment, professional malpractice, real estate and personal injury disputes. He began his career in private practice, trying commercial, products liability and construction defect matters for 18 years. His wealth of legal acumen, coupled with his exceptional ability to listen and connect with all parties, creates a foundation for understanding and resolution.

LEGAL CAREER & PRIOR EXPERIENCE

- Full-time Neutral, Judicate West (2024-Present)
- Of Counsel, Herum, Crabtree, Suntag; Practice devoted to alternative dispute resolution services in civil matters with emphasis in trusts, estates, contract, business, construction, employment, medical malpractice and personal injury disputes (2019-2024)
- Judge, San Joaquin County Superior Court (1996-2019); Served in probate (2015-2019), civil (2007-2014), criminal trials (2003-2007), general criminal and civil (2000-2002), juvenile dependency (1996-2000); Served as Presiding Judge (2014-2015), Assistant Presiding Judge (2012-2013), Supervising Judge – Civil Division (2011-2014); Sat on numerous court committees including the Executive, Civil, ADR, Judicial Liaison, and Local Rules Committees, and the Superior Court Appellate Panel; Participated in Judicial Branch Committee Assignments including the Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee, Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee, TCPJAC/CEAC Joint Rules Subcommittee and TCPJAC Jury Working Group
- Partner, Kroloff, Belcher, Smart, Perry & Christopherson; Focused on commercial disputes, products liability defense, and construction defect litigation (1987-1996)
- Partner, Neumiller & Beardslee; Focused on civil litigation with emphasis in commercial disputes and products liability defense (1979-1987)

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- J.D., University of California, College of Law, San Francisco (1979)
- B.A., cum laude, Occidental College (1976)
- 'Mediating the Litigated Case', Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine (2019)
- California Judges Association; Member (1997-Present); Executive Board (2017-2019)
- Judge Consuelo M. Callahan Inn of Court; Member (2006-Present); President (2012-2014)
- Association for Conflict Resolution (2019-Present)
- San Joaquin, Sacramento and Stanislas County Bar Associations

PRACTICE AREAS

Business/Contractual; Construction Defect; Employment; Environmental; Personal Injury; Probate/Trust and Estates; Products Liability; Professional Malpractice; Real Estate

ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

- Presented on a myriad of legal matters to a number of prominent organizations including California Judicial Education & Research (CJER), San Joaquin County Bar Association, Association of Defense Counsel, and Consumer Attorneys of California

HOBBIES & INTERESTS

Judge Holland enjoys spending time with his family, especially his five grandchildren. Additional interests include history, music, and hiking.

LOCATIONS

Northern California, All of California