



Hon. Robert P. Dahlquist, Ret.



Results Beyond DisputeSM

Judge Dahlquist joined Judicate West following 20 years of distinguished service to the San Diego County Superior Court. He was a Civil Independent Calendar judge for 14 of those 20 years, handling all types of civil cases from beginning to end, including case management, motions, bench trials, and jury trials. He also spent three years in a trial department, handling trials of all types, including probate, family and civil trials, and another three years as a Family Independent Calendar judge. During his judicial tenure, he was the Supervising Judge of the North County Courthouse and a member of the Superior Court's Executive Committee. He also conducted many settlement conferences, leading to the strongly held belief that nearly every case can be resolved successfully out-of-court, without the expense, aggravation, and uncertainty of continued litigation. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Dahlquist was in private practice for more than 20 years, where he litigated a wide variety of civil matters in federal and state courts, both for plaintiffs and defendants, and advised clients on avoiding and resolving disputes.

LEGAL CAREER & PRIOR EXPERIENCE

- Full-time Neutral, Judicate West (2024-Present)
- Judge, San Diego County Superior Court (2003-2024); Civil Independent Calendar (2007 – 2016, 2019 – 2024); Supervising Judge & Assistant Supervising Judge, North County Branch (2015 – 2018); Executive Committee of Court (2017 – 2018); Criminal, Civil, Probate & Family Trials (2007, 2017 – 2018); Family Law Independent Calendar (2003 – 2006)
- Partner, Latham & Watkins (1982-2003); Specialized in environmental issues and toxic waste, insurance, business/commercial, property damage, and personal injury-related claims

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- J.D., cum laude, University of Chicago Law School (1982)
- B.A., magna cum laude, Brigham Young University (1979)
- Judicial Council Advisory Committee on Civil Jury Instructions (2010 – 2023)
- Lopardo Inn of Court, Master and President (2007 – Present)
- Association of Business Trial Lawyers, Judicial Board of Governors and Judicial Advisory Board (2010- Present)
- California Judges Association, Advisory Committees and Member (2003 – Present)
- American Bar Association Business Law Section Committee on Environmental Energy and Natural Resources, Chair, Vice Chair, Programs Chair & Member (1992 – 2003)
- Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Board, Elected member (1987 – 1989)

PRACTICE AREAS

Business/Commercial; Employment; Environmental; Family Law; Insurance Coverage/Bad Faith; Personal Injury including Wrongful Death; Probate; Professional Malpractice; Real Estate

ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

- AV/Preeminent Rating with Martindale Hubbell
- President's Award, North County Bar Association (2012)
- Chair, Pro Bono Legal Counsel and Board Member, Arthritis Foundation San Diego Area Chapter (1990 – 2001); Received 'Volunteer of the Year (1996)
- Board Member, Combined Health Agencies of San Diego (1996 – 1998)
- Order of the Coif, University of Chicago Law School (1982)
- Member and Associate Editor, University of Chicago Law Review (1981 – 1982)
- Authored numerous articles for legal publications including North County Lawyer Magazine

**HOBBIES &
INTERESTS**

Judge Dahlquist enjoys spending time with his large extended family, traveling and exploring old mining and ghost towns.

LOCATIONS

San Diego, All of California