

CALIFORNIA  
**Neutrals**

DAILY JOURNAL



**Bette Epstein, Esq.**

**ADR SERVICES, INC.**

San Francisco Bay Area and Silicon Valley

Breach of Fiduciary Duty, Real Property Transfers, Contested Conservatorships, Trust Contests, Financial Elder Abuse, Trust Administration Disputes, Probate Disputes, Will Contests

Bette Epstein litigated trust, probate and conservatorship matters with Crosby Heafey Roach & May/Reed Smith for 28 years and has now focused on serving as a full-time mediator and discovery referee of trust, estate, conservatorship and elder abuse disputes at ADR Services, Inc. Prior to attending law school Bette was a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and provided counseling services to individuals and families. She has been able to utilize both her legal and counseling skills while helping parties settle their disputes. Bette describes the mediation process as requiring patience and persistence while affording the litigants the opportunity to tell their stories, share their frustrations and explore settlement alternatives. This approach can often lead to a creative solution that would not be available through a court proceeding.

Bette is the co-author of all 7 editions of the CEB Action Guide Capacity and Undue Influence: Assessing, Challenging, and Defending, and a contributor to the publication International Protection of Adults, Oxford

University Press, 2015, and to Best Practices for Structuring Trust and Estates, Aspatore Books, 2014 Edition. She is a Fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC) and served on the State Bar Trust & Estate Committee (TEXCOM). In addition to regularly serving as a presenter at continuing education programs, she is a frequent guest lecturer at both University of San Francisco School of Law and Golden Gate University School of Law LLM Tax Program in the field of legal ethics. Her knowledge of trust and estate law and probate procedure, as well as her substantial courtroom and counseling experience, make Bette a quick study in understanding and resolving the factual, legal and emotional aspects of the disputes. Bette is on the pro bono probate mediation panels of several of the Bay Area courts.

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