



HON. MICHAEL C. SOLNER

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge (Ret.)

www.judgesolner.com



BACKGROUND

As a neutral with ADR Services, Inc. since 2014, Judge Solner brings his vast knowledge and experience of seventeen years on the bench both as a trial judge and, during his last two years on the bench, as a Settlement judge assigned to a dedicated MSC Court, successfully settling hundreds of cases. Often described as persuasive, insightful, knowledgeable and prepared, he is among the most highly regarded and effective neutrals with ADR Services, Inc.

Judge Solner has had an impressive 50-year career as both a litigator and judge with extensive legal experience in a wide range of matters. Beginning his legal career, he was appointed as an Assistant United States Attorney in Los Angeles where he excelled in the courtroom. For the next two decades he was a civil litigator handling plaintiff as well as defense representation.

Widely known for his ability to interject humor, when appropriate, to defuse tension, Judge Solner's warm communication skills effectively lend themselves to establishing the rapport that expeditiously moves the parties to a successful, lasting resolution, either virtually or in person. With a deep sense of humanity and keen insight, he draws upon his natural abilities and wide-ranging unique life experiences including immersion in foreign cultures for years at a time. He lived in Paris, France as a young man and Mallorca in his teens.

Attorneys who have appeared both in his courtroom and in a mediation with him at ADR Services, Inc. have said that Judge Solner is "very knowledgeable about the law", "legendary for his patience", "the epitome of a great judge", "understands cases crazy fast", and "is forceful where he needs to be". A former presiding judge has also described him as "an iron fist in a velvet glove".

JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE

1997 – 2014 Judge of the Superior Court, Los Angeles
Unlimited Civil Independent Calendar Trial Court
Assistant Supervising Judge
Civil Trials
Settlement Judge
Three (3) years criminal trials at CCB

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1988-1997 Sole Practitioner, Litigation Attorney
Law Offices of Michael C. Solner

1977-1988 Partner, Litigation Attorney
Thelen, Marrin, Johnson & Bridges (then the 6th largest California firm)

1972-1977 Assistant United States Attorney, Central District of California
Criminal Division - jury and non-jury trials, appeals, Grand Jury investigations,
acting Chief of Complaints

1975-1977 Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG), United States Air Force (Rank: Major)

EDUCATION

2005 Strauss Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University School of Law
Mediation: The Art of Facilitating Settlement

1971 Loyola Law School, Juris Doctor

1964 University of Southern California, Bachelor of Foreign Service

MILITARY EXPERIENCE

1964-1968 United States Air Force, Aerial Reconnaissance Missions 1965-66
Commissioned Officer and Viet Nam Combat Veteran

BAR MEMBERSHIPS

Supreme Court of the United States

United States Tax Court

9th Circuit Court of Appeals

US District Courts for the Central, Eastern Districts of California

American Bar Association

International Bar Association

SERVICE TO THE JUDICIARY AND COMMUNITY

Judge Solner created and established a powerful and unique Invitational Program with the USC Price Bedrosian Center with then Dean Jack Knott for on-site visits and tours of the Mosk Courthouse to educate advanced degree students on the third branch of government.

PERSONAL

Judge Solner spent many of his formative years abroad, attending local grammar schools. He lived in Paris, France, and the Island of Mallorca, and attended College Champittet in Lausanne, Switzerland.

As a result, Judge Solner became trilingual in English, French and Spanish, affording him a rare ability to appreciate and absorb numerous cultures, backgrounds and personalities. He is an avid skier, scuba diver, ultra-marathoner and competitive triathlete, speaking to his love of the outdoors.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Real Estate/Real Property

Commercial & Residential Landlord/Tenant Disputes
Construction Defects and Disputes
Environmental Disputes
HOA Disputes
Sale Disclosure Disputes
Construction Defects
Landlord-Tenant Disputes
Valuation
Partition
Real Estate Sales Commission
Quiet Title
Inverse Condemnation
Foreclosures
Mold Infestation
Property Boundary Disputes
Eminent Domain
Franchise Disputes
Buy-Sell Agreements
Environmental Contamination

Business & Commercial

Business Disputes
Non-Compete Clauses
School District Disputes
Construction Loans
Guarantee and Forbearance Disputes
Contract Interpretation
Partnership Dissolution
Breach of Fiduciary Duty
Territory/Commissionable Sales & Accounting
Fraud
Commercial Lease
Breach of Contract
17200 Cases
Franchising Disputes
Architecture & Construction Design
Complex Commercial and Business Contracts
High Profile Destination Shopping Mall Lease Disputes

Employment

Retaliation
Wrongful Termination
Hostile Work Environment
Workplace Discrimination, Harassment: Age, Sex, Race, Religion, Disability

Wage and Hour
FEHA

Personal Injury

Catastrophic and Other Injuries
Automobile
Slip and Fall
Negligence
Public Transportation (Rail and Bus)
Asbestos
Product Liability

Entertainment

Contract Disputes
Privacy Rights; Defamation and Disparagement
Breach of Contract among celebrities
Disputed Movie Rights
Licensing Agreements

Professional Malpractice

Legal Malpractice
Medical Malpractice

Insurance

Insurance Coverage
Professional Liability Coverage
Good Faith/Fair Dealing
UIM/UM Claims

General

Email Fraud
Data Leak
Manufacturing & Design Defects
Environmental Contamination
Identity Misappropriation