



February 6, 2018

Hon. Suzanne G. Bruguera (Ret.)
915 Wilshire Boulevard
Suite 1900
Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 683-1600 Tel.

RE: THANK YOU

Dear Counsel,

www.adrservices.com

Those who appeared before me in Department 71 of the Stanley Mosk Courthouse soon became aware of my deep respect, admiration, and affection for attorneys. Thank you for the honor and privilege of twenty-seven years as a judge in Los Angeles.

I proudly served as a Judge for the County of Los Angeles, having been appointed by Governor George Deukmejian in 1989, for 10 years on the Municipal Court and 17 years on the Superior Court. All of my assignments were in civil courtrooms. As an independent calendar judge, I was assigned to handle unlimited civil cases from filing to final adjudication. I had a caseload of approximately 460 active and 150 inactive cases at the time of my retirement. I held this assignment for nearly 20 years, until I retired from the bench in 2017 to join ADR Services, Inc.

Joining ADR Services, Inc. is a natural progression for me because, on the bench, I explored settlement of my cases at every opportunity and have pride in my success rate. I developed settlement skills because, being able to settle my own cases and those of my colleagues was crucial for all of us to handle such large caseloads. I particularly take pride in having settled matters which other settlement officers previously could not. Although there is no magic key to settlement except preparation, I believe in exercising patience and in creating an opportunity for people to reach an agreement without being judged or humiliated. I allow people to save face, and I never give up, which is crucial to consistently bringing matters to resolution.

The general categories of cases I handled are:

- Employment – these cases were over 50% of my caseload, including:
 - FEHA and FLSA cases
 - Failure to provide and maintain accurate wage statements and records
 - Unfair business practices
 - Failure to provide meal breaks
 - Failure to provide rest breaks
 - Waiting time penalties
 - Failure to pay regular rate wages
 - Failure to provide overtime or double time compensation
 - Discrimination on the basis of race, gender, age, ethnicity, religion, and sexual orientation
 - PAGA actions

- Civil rights
- Business disputes
- Class actions
- Collection matters
- Complex litigation
- Contract disputes, including breach, declaratory relief, and breach of express warranty
- Construction disputes, including large construction defect cases, as well disputes between homeowners, contractors, and subcontractors
- Elder abuse, both financial and physical
- Eminent domain and inverse condemnation
- Entertainment cases involving contractual issues, as well as very sensitive personal issues, such as confidential celebrity matters
- Environmental and toxic tort matters, including mold
- False Claims Act
- Fee disputes
- Financial market litigation, particularly after the economic downturn when investors brought actions to recover losses
- Franchise disputes
- Health care
- Homeowner association disputes including collection of fees and dues, foreclosures, and officer liability
- Insurance, including breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing
- Intellectual property
- Landlord tenant, both commercial and residential, involving renters as well as owners who, as a result of foreclosure, faced unlawful detainer actions by financial institutions which found themselves unintentionally expanding their real estate owned portfolios.
- Legal malpractice
- Maritime involving personal injuries on cruise ships
- Medical malpractice involving a great variety of medical practitioners, including hospitals
- Partnership dissolution
- Personal injury, including wrongful death and injury alleged from exposure to asbestos
- Products liability

- Professional liability of nearly every profession including accountants, architects, and contractors
- Punitive damages
- Song Beverly Act (Lemon Law)
- Real property disputes, including residential and commercial purchases and leases, lending, commissions, claims for rescission, breach of contract, and failures to disclose

Your support of me throughout my legal career has been sincerely appreciated. I hope to see you soon and be able to assist you and your clients in resolving their disputes.

Please feel free to contact my case manager, Elvira Camacho, whenever I can be of assistance to you. She can be reached at Elvira@adrservices.com or (213) 683-1600. You are also welcome to contact me directly at JudgeBruguera@adrservices.com.

Thank you again for the honor and privilege of being a judge.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Suzanne G. Bruguera". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "B" for the last name.

Hon. Suzanne G. Bruguera (Ret.)
ADR Services, Inc.