



KARREN L. FREEDMAN, ESQ.
Mediator / Special Master



Karren L. Freedman, Esq. has been a litigation attorney for 30 years. She has tried cases in state and federal court as well as appeared in state appellate court. She is well-regarded by judges, mediators, special masters, the plaintiff's bar and the defense bar as trustworthy, hard-working and a strong advocate for her clients. Her experience in settling hundreds of cases through the mediation process has given her a strong understanding for the need to be patient, listen to the needs of all parties in a given matter, determine early on what the impediments to settlement are, and work with the parties to try to reach the goals they desire.

While most cases tend to settle, getting to "Yes" can be emotionally overwhelming as well as costly, time consuming and frustrating – particularly for a party who has never been involved in a lawsuit. The experience can be daunting even for a business professional. The need to care, listen and understand is paramount. Ms. Freedman has the ability to do just that. She understands how important it is for the parties to have the opportunity to tell their story. She brings empathy, a sense of urgency, intellect, and a sense of humor to the mediation table.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- **Construction Defect:** Multi single-family homes, apartments, condominiums, single-family luxury homes, commercial buildings, with a subspecialty of concrete tilt-up wall construction
- **Construction Injuries**
- **Personal Injury**
- **Premises Liability**
- **Products Liability**

CAREER HISTORY

- 1998 – 2018 Law Offices of John A. Biard formerly Joseph Costella & Associates
Senior Staff Counsel for Travelers Insurance Company
- 1996 – 1997 Law Offices of James Cherry, Associate
- 1993 – 1996 Law Offices of Thomas J. Dawson, Associate
- 1991 – 1996 Adjunct Professor, School of Law, John F. Kennedy University
Courses Taught: Civil Procedure, Introduction to Legal Writing
- 1988 – 1993 Wald, Freedman, Chapman & Bendes, Associate
- Judge Pro Tem – Alameda County Municipal Court

LEGAL EDUCATION

- Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University:
Mediating the Litigated Case, 2018
- John F. Kennedy University School of Law, Walnut Creek, California
Juris Doctor, 1987
Class Rank: Second
Law Review: *John F. Kennedy Law Record*, Editor 1987; Assistant Editor 1986

HONORS AND AWARDS

- American Jurisprudence Award in:
 - Contracts
 - Torts
 - Remedies
 - Criminal Law
 - Criminal Procedure
- Corpus Juris Secundum Award for Significant Legal Scholarship

ASSOCIATIONS

- California State Bar Association
- Alameda County Bar Association
- Bar Association of San Francisco
- Women Lawyers of Alameda County