MARK LEHOCKY, ESQ.

Mediator | Arbitrator | Referee

www.marklehocky.com

For over 30 years, Mark LeHocky has mediated, managed and resolved thousands of disputes nationwide ranging from intellectual property, antitrust and other business disputes, consumer and employment class actions, malpractice actions, as well as mass torts, crisis and critical path negotiations. For this work, Mr. LeHocky has been repeatedly recognized among the Best Lawyers in America for Mediation©, and voted both 2024 and 2022 Mediator of the Year for the San Francisco area.

Mr. LeHocky's approach is shaped by having worn nearly all professional hats in the legal arena – as a litigator representing plaintiffs and defendants, a public company general counsel and client, and an arbitrator and pro tem judge. Central to all this work is helping decision makers of all types make realistic, risk-based choices based upon alternative scenarios and the practical tradeoffs of different courses.

AREAS OF EMPHASIS

- **Contract / Business and Commercial**
  - Consumer Class Actions
  - Antitrust / Unfair Competition
  - Fraud / Misrepresentation
- **Complex Disputes**
  - Mass Torts
  - Crisis and Critical Path ADR
- **Employment**
  - Class and PAGA Actions
  - Discrimination
  - Wrongful Termination
- **Insurance**
  - Coverage
  - Subrogation
- **Intellectual Property**
  - Patent
  - Trademark
  - Copyright
  - Trade Secrets
  - Right of Publicity
- **Professional Liability**
  - Attorneys
  - Accountants
  - Real Estate Brokers

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

❖ **Private Mediator and Arbitrator (2012-Present)**

First appointed as a federal court mediator in 1999, Mr. LeHocky's nationwide mediation practice includes state and federal actions involving intellectual property (trade secrets, patents, trademarks, copyrights,

right of publicity), antitrust and unfair competition, consumer and employment class actions, contract, commercial, insurance, employee mobility and founder disputes as well as business acquisition and dissolution actions.

❖ **Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, Ross Stores, Inc. (2007-2012)**

Ross is an S&P 500 and NASDAQ 100 company (ROST) and the second largest off-price retailer in the United States. As Senior Vice President and General Counsel, Mr. LeHocky:

- Managed all major litigation, including class and individual employment, intellectual property, privacy and contract litigation, as well as government and private investigations.
- Created a company-wide early dispute resolution program to accelerate disposition of all civil cases.
- Established new intellectual property protection programs to acquire and maintain key IP assets.

❖ **Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary, Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream, Inc. (2000-2007)**

Dreyer's, now a subsidiary of Nestlé, S.A., is the largest U.S. manufacturer and distributor of ice cream products. Prior to merging with Nestle, Dreyer's was a Fortune 1000 public company. As General Counsel, Mr. LeHocky:

- Managed all of Dreyer's employment, contract, intellectual property, and commercial litigation.
- Helped design and execute a two-stage merger transaction with Nestlé, S.A., combining Nestlé's U.S. ice cream operations with Dreyer's pre-existing operations.
- Managed the defense and resolution of the Federal Trade Commission's antitrust challenge to the Dreyer's/Nestlé merger.
- Negotiated multiple acquisitions of other brand, manufacturing and franchise businesses, as well as patents, trademarks and other technology rights.
- Trained Nestlé's international legal team on litigation management and dispute resolution.

❖ **Principal, Freeland, Cooper, LeHocky & Hamburg (1987-2000)**

Mr. LeHocky managed the complex litigation practice of this boutique law firm, prosecuting and defending intellectual property, employment, antitrust, commercial and class action disputes, and representing clients including Apple, AT&T, Dreyer's and Met Life. Prior to the Freeland law firm, Mr. LeHocky honed his litigation skills at two other San Francisco firms: Wilson, Ryan & Campilongo, and Khourie & Crew (a litigation spinoff of Broad, Khourie & Schulze).

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of California, Berkeley School of Law
- B.A., University of California, Los Angeles, *Magna Cum Laude*

PROFESSIONAL HONORS

- Voted Mediator of the Year for the San Francisco region for both 2024 and 2022 through BestLawyers(c)'s attorney rating system
- Voted a Best Lawyer in America for Mediation by BestLawyers 2016-2026

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS / TEACHING

- Board of Directors, Association of Business Trial Lawyers, Northern California Chapter (2024-Present)
- Adjunct Faculty, U.C. Berkeley School of Law (2020-Present)
- Adjunct Faculty, U.C. Berkeley Haas Graduate School of Business (2018-2020)
- Adjunct Faculty, Mediation Advocacy, University of California, Davis School of Law (2015-2016)
- Co-Chair, ABA Dispute Resolution Section Mediation Committee (2017-2019)
- Chair, Contra Costa County Bar Association ADR Section (2018-2019)
- Co-Chair, ADR-Arbitration Committee, Bar Association of San Francisco (2016-Present)