



Hon. H. Chester Horn, Jr. (Ret.)

Mediator • Arbitrator • Referee



Hon. H. Chester Horn, Jr. (Ret.) is an esteemed jurist who has devoted his career to public service. He served as a judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court for 21 years and presided over countless noteworthy and complex cases during his tenure.

Judge Horn's legal career began in 1972 when he earned his law degree from UCLA School of Law. Upon graduating, he joined the California Department of Justice and quickly established himself as a skilled attorney, gaining a reputation for his ability to navigate the intricacies of complex civil litigation in both state and federal courts. As Deputy Attorney General for the Antitrust Section, Judge Horn was heavily involved in several high-profile cases. In particular, he was lead counsel in *California v. American Stores* challenging the merger of two large supermarket chains in Southern California. The case resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court's first opinion allowing a state to enjoin a merger affecting interstate commerce. [*California v. American Stores Co.* 495 U.S. 271 (1990).] As lead trial counsel, he represented governmental purchasers and California consumers in multi-district, treble damage, class action lawsuits resulting in large multimillion dollar settlements. In many of these cases, he served on executive committees appointed by the United States District Courts to manage the litigation alongside other class representatives.

In addition to his antitrust work, Judge Horn handled complex cases involving the electric utility industry on behalf of the California Department of Water Resources. He was also involved in several cases challenging proposed mergers within the electric utility and supermarket industries. Following the merger cases, Judge Horn transferred to the Charitable Trusts Section, where he handled a range of investigations and cases involving will contests and charity fraud. He also oversaw the review of 18 transactions involving the sale of non-profit hospitals, leading to the creation of charitable foundations with assets totaling over \$1 billion dollars.

In 2002, after decades of legal practice, Judge Horn was appointed to the Los Angeles Superior Court. He presided over an Unlimited Jurisdiction Trial Court for the last 11 years of his judicial career, handling cases across a wide spectrum of civil litigation, including antitrust, business, charitable trusts and non-profits, civil rights, class action, complex litigation, insurance, landlord-tenant and habitability, medical malpractice, personal injury, and probate. Over the course of his career, Judge Horn has earned the respect of his colleagues and peers for his legal acumen and dedication to the law, and he has won the admiration of countless litigants for his compassionate approach, keen insights, and firm commitment to justice.

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

- Antitrust
- Asbestos Litigation
- Business & Commercial Contract
- Charitable Trust and Non-Profits
- Civil Rights
- Class Actions
- Complex Litigation
- Insurance
- Landlord-Tenant and Habitability
- Medical Malpractice
- Multi-District Litigation
- Personal Injury
- Probate, Estates and Trusts
- Unlawful Detainer

JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE

Judge of the Los Angeles Superior Court, County of Los Angeles **2002-2023**

Unlimited Jurisdiction Trial Court, Santa Monica Courthouse, 2012-2023
Felony Trial Court, Airport Courthouse, 2009-2011
Misdemeanor Trial Court, Beverly Hills Courthouse, 2007-2008
Misdemeanor Trial Court, Hollywood Courthouse, 2002-2007
Preliminary Hearings, Criminal Courts Building, 2002

PRIOR LEGAL EXPERIENCE

California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General **1972-1981, 1986-2002**

Deputy Attorney General, Charitable Trusts Section, 1988-2002
Deputy Attorney General, Antitrust Section, 1986-1988
Deputy Attorney General, Antitrust Section, 1972-1981

Private Practice Experience **1981-1986**

Partner, Hecht Diamond & Greenfield, 1983-1986
Associate, Pilot & Spar, 1982-1983
Partner, Tomin & Horn, 1981-1982

EDUCATION

UCLA School of Law, Juris Doctorate 1972
University of California, Santa Barbara, Bachelor of Arts 1969

PUBLICATIONS

Health Care Alliances and Conversion: A Handbook for Nonprofit Trustees, James R. Schwartz and H. Chester Horn, Jr., Jossey-Bass Inc., 1998
“Hollywood Squared”, *Hospital and Health Networks*, Aug. 5 and 20, 1998
“Deal Makers, Deal Breakers”, *Hospital and Health Networks*, Sep. 5, 1997
“Bank Mergers: A Unique Role for State Antitrust Enforcers?”, No. 13, *International Merger Law*, Sept. 1991
“Some Suggestions for Confronting the Brave New World of Antitrust Federalism”, *36 Antitrust Bulletin* No. 4, at 821, Winter 1991
“California v. American Stores: Some Thoughts About the Future for State Merger Enforcement Programs”, 18 NAAG *Antitrust Report*, No. 3, 1, April-May 1990
“The States’ View of Regional and National Mergers”, 58 *Antitrust Law Journal* 233, 1989