



HON. MARIE S. WEINER (ret.)

Available for Mediations, Arbitrations, Discovery
References, and Private Trials



With an illustrious judicial career spanning over two decades, Hon. Marie Weiner has made a profound impact on California's legal system, particularly in civil litigation. Her work has been marked by an unwavering commitment to fairness, judicial efficiency, and legal excellence. Judge Weiner served on the Superior Court of San Mateo County from 2002 until her retirement in 2024. During this time, she gained recognition as a dedicated and effective leader, notably in the field of complex civil litigation, where she served as Complex Civil Litigation Judge for 12 years, and was instrumental in managing multi-party, high-stakes litigation.

Now focusing on arbitration and discovery referee assignments, Judge Weiner brings a disciplined, methodical approach to dispute resolution. She encourages the phased use of discovery tools to streamline proceedings and reduce costs, ensuring fair and efficient proceedings. Her dedication to civil trial efficiency and background in business provides her with a strong foundation for handling a wide variety of disputes including those involving employment, intellectual property and trade secrets, insurance coverage and bad faith, securities litigation, construction defect, consumer fraud, personal injury, class actions, and contract and partnership issues.

Judge Weiner is known for her judicial insight in complex civil litigation, civil trials, evidence, and discovery disputes. Her common sense, pragmatic approach is balanced with compassion, stemming from her life experiences. Known for her organized and solution-focused handling of cases, she is respected for her commitment to professionalism and judicial integrity. Having started her career representing clients facing difficult situations, she remains attuned to the personal impact of litigation.

Appointed to the Superior Court of San Mateo County in 2002, Judge Weiner quickly distinguished herself as a formidable presence on the bench, deeply committed to championing efficiency, ensuring equitable outcomes for all litigants, and modernizing the court system by revamping the civil division from a Master Calendar system to a single judge assignment system. Tasked with adjudicating some of the county's most multifaceted and high-stakes cases, she demonstrated a profound understanding of both the technical intricacies and the human implications inherent in complex civil disputes. Her exceptional journey has been defined not only by her legal acumen but also by her ability to transform multifaceted legal issues into understandable, actionable judgments that resonate with litigants and attorneys alike.

Before her appointment to the bench, Judge Weiner built a career as an attorney in private practice, where she honed her litigation skills on a wide range of cases and gained invaluable trial experience. She later became a partner of her law firm and quickly established herself as a skilled litigator in civil cases. Her work there included high-profile litigation and significant jury trials, solidifying her reputation as a sharp legal mind and a tenacious advocate for her clients.

As she continues her work in arbitration and dispute resolution, Judge Weiner brings a wealth of knowledge, a reputation for fairness, and a legacy of dedication to justice. Her commitment to excellence, combined with her openness to innovation and sensitivity to the needs of litigants, make her an exceptional arbitrator and referee across a diverse spectrum of civil disputes.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Labor and Employment
- Intellectual Property and Trade Secrets
- Business, Contract and Partnership Disputes
- Insurance Coverage and Insurance Bad Faith
- Securities Litigation and Shareholders Derivative Actions
- Construction Defect and Property Damage
- Consumer Fraud
- CEQA
- Personal Injury, Product Defect and Mass Tort
- Class Actions
- Wage & Hour/PAGA
- Landlord/Tenant

EDUCATION

- University of California, Hastings College of Law, J.D. 1983
- University of San Francisco, B.S. Business Administration 1980
Cum laude, Honors in Humanities

JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE

- Superior Court Judge, San Mateo County, California, 2002-2024
 - Civil Supervising Judge, 2015-2023
 - Complex Civil Litigation Judge, 2010-2024
 - Civil Litigation Judge, 2022-2024
 - CEQA Environmental Law Judge, 2004-2024
 - Central Branch Supervising Judge, 2010-2012
 - Appellate Division, 2006-2009
 - Civil Law & Motion Judge, 2006 and 2008
 - Case Management Judge, 2007
 - Drug Court Judge, 2003-2005
 - Trial Judge, 2002-2005, 2007, 2009

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Cotchett Pitre & McCarthy, Burlingame, California
 - Partner, 1991-2002
 - Associate Attorney, 1986-1990
- Milberg Weiss Bershad Spechtrie & Lerach, San Diego, California
 - Associate Attorney, 1984-1986

HONORS

- California Judges Association, President's Award, 2012; The highest honor from the CJA, awarded for exceptional service and leadership.
- San Mateo County Trial Lawyers, Judge of the Year, 2009; Acknowledgment of judicial excellence and commitment to fair and just proceedings.

ADMISSIONS

- State Bar of California, December 1983
- United States District Court, Northern District of California 1983; Southern District of California 1984; Central District of California 1985; Eastern District of California 1990
- Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals 1992

- United States Supreme Court 1989

JUDICIAL PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND COMMITTEES

- California Judges Association, 2003-Present
 - Secretary/Treasurer, 2010-2012
 - Executive Board, 2009-2012
 - Nominations Committee, 2015
- San Mateo County Bar Association, 1986-Present
 - Professional Equality Committee, 2022-2023
- Association of Business Trial Lawyers, Northern California, 1993-Present
 - Board of Directors, 2004-2006, 2016-2023
- Monterey County Bar Association, 2024-Present
- California Women Lawyers, 1987-2023
- Judicial Council of California, Advisory Committees, 2009-2018
 - CJER Civil Law Curriculum Committee, 2015-2018
 - Civil and Small Claims Advisory Committee, 2009-2015

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Panelist, Assn. of Business Trial Lawyers, PAGA Litigation, 2022
- Panelist, Women in Securities, From the Podium to the Bench, November 2022
- Panelist, CJER, Electronic Civil Discovery, Education Video Lecture, 2019
- Panelist, CJER, Pretrial Orders, Education Video Lecture, 2018
- Panelist, CJER, Civil Law Institute, Complex Motions, September 2018.
- Panelist, CJER, Civil Law Institute, Jury Instructions, September 2018.
- Panelist, California Lawyers Association, Real Property Law Section, Navigating the Challenges and Problems Facing ADR, April 2018.
- Panelist, 2017 Complex Courts Symposium, High Tech Employee Turnover/Poaching: Are Trade Secrets Secret?, October 2017.
- Panelist, 2016 Complex Courts Symposium, Complex Case Management, November 2016.
- Panelist, Consumer Attorneys of California, Masters Seminar: Effective Use of Discovery in Preparation for Trial, September 2016.
- Speaker, San Mateo County Bar Assn., SLAPP – Recent Developments and the Judicial Perspective, March 2014.
- Panelist, CJER, Trial Court Judicial Attorneys Institute, Complex Civil Litigation for Non-Complex Attorneys, February 2014.
- Panelist, Consumer Attorneys of California, Annual Class Action Seminar, The Importance of Class Actions – Perspectives From the Bench, February 2014.
- Panelist, San Mateo County Bar Assn., Drafting Enforceable Employee Restrictive Covenants, June 2013.
- Panelist, CJER, Civil Law Institute, Taming the Complex Case in Times of Adversity, March 2013.
- Panelist, Los Angeles County Bar Assn., Complex Courts Symposium, The XYZs of Complex Litigation, November 2012.
- Panelist, Bar Association of San Francisco and Association of Business Trial Lawyers, Complex Courts Symposium, Discovery in the Complex Courts, November 2011.
- Panelist, Los Angeles County Bar Assn., Complex Courts Symposium, E-Discovery Issues and Philosophies, November 2010.
- Panelist, San Mateo County Bar Assn., Path of the Female Associate – Surviving the Profession, March/April 2009.
- Panelist, Association of Defense Counsel of Northern California, ADCNC Basic Training Series, Law and Motion Practice and Motions for Summary Judgment, September 2008.
- Speaker, San Francisco Trial Lawyers Assn., Women’s Caucus Panel, What I Have Learned Since I’ve Been on the Bench, May 2008.

- Panelist, San Mateo County Superior Court Multi-Option ADR Project, How to Be Effective in Judicial Arbitration, September 2007.
- Panelist, American Bar Association, Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section, Beyond PowerPoint, October 2005.
- Panelist, Bar Association of San Francisco, Careful with Your Pillow Talk: Creating and Preserving the Privilege between Debtors, Committees and Their Professionals, April 2005.
- Panelist, California Women Lawyers, So, You Want To Be A Judge?, October 2004.
- Panelist, State Bar of California, Antitrust and Unfair Competition Law Section, Evolving Issues in Unfair Competition Law: Know Your Playing Field, May 2004.
- Panelist, Association of Business Trial Lawyers, From Trial Lawyer to Trial Judge, February 2004.
- Panelist, San Mateo County Bar Assn., Eliminating Bias in the Courtroom, January 2004 and January 2008.
- Speaker, Glasser LegalWorks, Directors and Officers in the Spotlight: Liability, Indemnification and Insurance, "Director and Officer Derivative Liability Under State Law: The California Judicial Perspective", October 2003.

PUBLICATIONS

- Articles Author, The Importance of Mentoring Junior Trial Attorneys, Assn. of Business Trial Lawyers, 2023-2024
- Contributing Author and Contributing Editor, Deskbook on the Management of Complex Civil Litigation, LexisNexis and Judicial Council of California, 2010-2015.
- Consultant, California Judges Benchbook: Civil Proceedings, DISCOVERY (Second Edition) and AFTER TRIAL (Second Edition) CJER and Westlaw, 2010-2015.