



Judith E. Rubenstein

Attorney/Mediator

“Judith’s creativity, ability and persistence can usually find a bridge where any resolution of a dispute seems hopeless.”

“Judith’s professional approach, perseverance and understanding of the facts and legal issues of a very complex case, made settlement possible.”

“In spite of fractious parties and recalcitrant adjusters, Judith kept the process moving forward. At the end of the day, my client felt that he had been listened to, understood, and dealt with in a fair manner.”

Judith Rubenstein began her mediation practice in 1985 when lawyer-mediators in the United States were rare. Prior to 1985, Judith was an outstanding litigator in both California and Massachusetts. Her academic background in both law and psychology gives her a unique ability to work from both the legal and human dynamic perspectives. Judith has resolved thousands of complex disputes including probate, real estate, employment, business, family, and tort matters. She is skilled at working with even the most difficult parties because of her excellent process and listening skills, patience, and diplomacy. She is known for her tenacity and creative problem solving approach to bring about resolution in the most entrenched and complex disputes. Judith is also known widely as a trainer in mediation and negotiation skills as the director of Conflict Management Institute of Santa Barbara, which has certified new mediators since 1990.

Mediation Training includes: Harvard University Negotiation Program, Pepperdine University Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution; Dispute Resolution Services Mediation Certificate Program, Yarbrough Workplace Mediation Training.

Education: Columbia Law School (J.D., 1972, Law Review); Pacifica Graduate Institute (M.A. in Psych., '03); University of Michigan (B.A., 1964, Phi Beta Kappa).

Professional Experience: Principal, Rubenstein & Sorensen Mediation (2007-present); Private Mediation Practice since 1985; Settlement Master, SB Superior Court (1990–present); Director, Conflict Management Institute, 1990-present; Director, Franklin County Mediation Program, Univ. of Massachusetts, 1985-1990.

Recent Professional Affiliations: ADR Committee, Santa Barbara Superior Court; ADR Committee Chair, SB Bar Association; Master, William L. Gordon Inn of Court.

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