

Biography/Approach to Mediation

Dennis Law brings to his ADR practice 38 years of experience handling diverse civil litigation matters and a persona befitting resolution. Patiently, diplomatically and effectively he will lead and assist the parties to achieve resolution.

Combined with his litigation experience is a background in leadership ranging from his years as the managing partner of Andre, Morris & Buttery to executive and director positions with multiple community organizations. He is adept at working through a controversy wisely looking for a solution. His approach is grounded and firm, yet probing and cautious appealing equally to those looking for a firm hand as those looking for a guiding light.

Following is a summary of his background and experience.

Legal Experience

Admitted to practice law in California in 1979 and employed as an attorney with Andre, Morris & Buttery, a professional law corporation from that time to the present. Partner status since 1982. Managing Partner, December 2000 to 2006. Andre, Morris & Buttery is a full service law firm with offices in San Luis Obispo and Santa Maria, CA.

As lead counsel, Mr. Law has handled a diverse range of matters. Many involved a court or jury trial and some involved an appeal. All were considered for settlement and many were mediated.

Construction Disputes. Prosecution and defense of several construction dispute cases.

Design Professionals. Defense of several claims against architects and engineers.

Title Issues. Title issues, including representation of major title companies.

Real Property. Broad assortment of real property matters including easements, property line issues, trespass, partition and real estate partnership matters.

Commercial Lending. Foreclosures, receiverships and contract disputes.

Entity Dispute. Corporate and partnership disputes including minority shareholder claims, dissolution and management.

Land Use. Writs of mandate against public agencies involving land use entitlements, CEQA, water and other land development issues.

Inverse Condemnation. Precedent setting takings case for inverse condemnation damages resulting from groundwater removal and land subsidence.

- Employment—Plaintiff.** Action against local medical clinic on behalf of a terminated physician involving unusual healthcare responsibility issues.
- Employment—Defense.** Defense of state agency in a series of trials involving gender discrimination, harassment and racial discrimination. Combined trial time eight months.
- Attorney Ethics and Contract.** Jury trial, appellate proceedings and second jury trial addressing attorney contingent fee claim and related ethics issues.
- Constitution.** First amendment issues addressed in trial and appellate proceedings, including representation of major newspaper in newsrack issue.
- Probate Litigation.** Includes will contests, trust disputes, and conveyance disputes involving undue influence, lack of capacity and fraud in contested trial and appellate proceedings.
- Landlord/Tenant.** Commercial and residential disputes through trial and judgment enforcement.
- Fraud.** Includes representation of state regulatory agency in complex fraud claim against an individual's raid on a major insurance company.
- Contract Interference.** Claim against an international motor vehicle company involving tortious interference with a dealership sales contract, including administrative proceeding with the New Motor Vehicle Board.
- Contract/Fraud.** Contract dispute involving sale of an automobile dealership.

Education/Mediation Training

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo B.A. Business, 1976
University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, J.D. 1979
Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, Pepperdine University School of Law;
Mediating the Litigated Case (40 hours);
Preventing Bad Settlement Decisions and Impasse (18 hours);
Practical Mindfulness (18 hours).
Creative Mediation, Wilshire Community Services, Elements of Mediation Training,
October, 2017;
Mediation Skills Certification (continuing through March, 2018)

Selected Professional Activities:

Committee member San Luis Obispo County Bar Association ADR Section
Member of Southern California Mediation Association
Member Real Property and Litigation Sections of California Bar Association
Member of Litigation Section of the American Bar Association
Presenter of CEB program "Real Property Practice: Year in Review" (2012-2014)
California Polytechnic State University:
Adjunct professor; business law 1982-1988
Lecturer, University Extension, contract law 1985-1988

Mediation Services
Dennis D. Law, Mediator
dlaw@amblaw.com

Co-author of articles in Bender's Labor & Employment Bulletin 2008-2013
Miscellaneous appointments as Judge Pro Tem, San Luis Obispo County Superior Court
in Mandatory Settlement Conferences 1983-1994 and 2015-2016.
San Luis Obispo County Bar Association:
Former President and Board member
Former Member Attorney Fee Arbitration Program
Former Chair and current member Lawyer Referral & Information Service
San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce
Former President and member of the Board
Former Board Counsel
Charter President of San Luis Obispo Property Owners Association
Former President San Luis Obispo Mozart Festival
Former member of the Board of Foundation for the Performing Arts Center
Former President of the San Luis Obispo Lions Club

