

As a lawyer for 27 years, Akram first worked as a deputy attorney general for the California Department of Justice in Los Angeles, where he prosecuted approximately 200 felony appeals, and currently is active in trial litigation as well. After completing his Master's degree in Public Policy in 1998 at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government, Akram worked as a corporate strategy specialist and in-house counsel for Egypt's recently-privatized brewery. After returning to Los Angeles in the late summer of 1999, Akram co-founded his law practice, Awad & Awad LLP and established Coptic Legal Foundation, a non-profit legal aid organization.

Between 2004 and 2005, Akram added real estate broker and mediator to his accomplishments and started his own real estate and mediation companies. Akram has also served as a Judge Pro Tem in Los Angeles and Orange counties, where he heard traffic matters, small claims matters and limited jurisdiction matters in various courthouses

In addition to his academic and legal pursuits, Mr. Awad enjoys collecting & restoring classic cars and is a member of various car clubs. Mr. Awad grew up in Glendale, is conversant in Arabic.

As a mediator for the past 15 years, Akram assists individuals resolve limited and unlimited jurisdiction lawsuits. Akram has mediated more than 300 cases in various areas including construction, personal injury, contract, real estate, employment, general business, and partnership disputes. Akram's ADR style is mostly Evaluative, but he incorporates many facets of the facilitative approach. This means he will make in-depth inquiries of each of the parties and counsel about the facts of the case and the legal positions taken by the litigants. He then challenges each side to truly consider their strengths and weaknesses (as well as the other side's). Then, finally, Akram tirelessly works each side over and over again, conducting "shuttle diplomacy", reminding each side of the virtues of settlement and reminding them of the pros and cons of settling versus continuing with the matter. Most have chosen the former path, thereby reaching a mutually satisfying resolution of the dispute.

## **EDUCATION/ TRAINING:**

**Pepperdine University – Strauss Institute**  
*Mediating the Litigated Case (08/2005; 42hrs)*

**Malibu, CA**

**Los Angeles Superior Court**  
*Neutral Orientation Program (September 2009; 2.5hrs)*  
*Neutral Orientation Program (May 2012; 3hrs)*

**Los Angeles, CA**

**Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government**  
*Master in Public Policy (September, 1996 to June, 1998)*

**Cambridge, MA**

**Loyola Marymount University, Loyola Law School**  
*Juris Doctorate (August, 1989 to June, 1992)*

**Los Angeles, CA**

**University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)**  
*Bachelor of Arts, Philosophy (September, 1984 to December, 1988)*

**Los Angeles, CA**

**FEES:**

The participants agree to pay the mediator an hourly rate of four hundred dollars (\$400.00) per hour for all of the Mediator's time spent toward the resolution of the above referenced controversy, which may include hearings, telephonic conferences or negotiations, review of mediation briefs or other documentation provided by the participants or counsel, site visits, travel time, together with actual out of pocket costs.

Parties and their Counsel agree each shall be jointly and severally responsible for payment of all mediation fees. Unless modified by prior agreement of the parties, each participant shall bear his/her/its pro-rata share of the applicable mediation fees.

The initial mediation fee is due immediately upon the confirmation of reserved dates. If the initial fee is not received, the mediation session will not go forward. Fees for any additional time will be billed following the session and are due upon receipt of an invoice.

The Mediator will require the participants to agree to commit to a minimum of one-half day (i.e., four (4) hours), or a full day (i.e., eight (8) hours). The participants agree to provide full payment, as designated, before the commencement of the mediation, and to pay any balance due within two (2) business days of the mediation's completion.

Fees will not be refunded if a matter is cancelled or continued fourteen (14) days or less before the original date scheduled for the session, unless the Mediator is able to schedule another conference for date(s) being held.

If the session is cancelled within fourteen (14) days prior to the conference, deposited fees will be returned, less two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per party, which will be retained as an administrative cancellation fee.