

H. CASE ELLIS, ESQ.
Crystal Lake, Illinois



PRACTICE DESCRIPTION

For 30+ years my practice focused on civil litigation primarily involving business, premises, vehicle, product, professional liability and declaratory judgment actions to construe insurance coverage. I now concentrates my practice in mediating and arbitrating civil cases both privately and as a court appointed mediator. I have extensive experience serving as a neutral in civil matters other than family matters or FINRA disputes. I especially concentrates my practice in the areas of Personal Injury, Professional Liability, Hospital Negligence, Property Damage, Contract Disputes, Insurance Coverage, Probate, Employment, Commercial Cases, Subrogation Matters and Construction Accidents. To schedule mediation call Caroline Alexander at 312.346.3770, x129 or email at calexander@resolutesystems.com

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

H. CASE ELLIS, born Middletown, Ohio, August 14, 1950; admitted to Illinois and U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois 1976, admitted to Federal Trial Bar 1982. **Education:** Purdue University (B.S., 1972-Psychology); Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago-Kent College of Law (J.D., with honors, 1976). **Law Clerk** to Hon. Albert Hallett (Second Appellate District, Ill) 1976-1977; **Associate/Officer**, Pretzel Stouffer Nolan & Rooney, 1977-1984; **Owner**, Law Office of H. Case Ellis 1984-present; **Member**, Panel of Arbitrators and Panel of Mediators, American Arbitration Association. **Appointed: Arbitrator**, Manville Personal Injury Settlement Trust, 1989; **Mediator**, AWI Asbestos Personal Injury Settlement Trust, 2009; **Member:** McHenry County, Lake County, Winnebago County, and Illinois State Bar Associations. **Co-Chair** of Tort Law Section Counsel, Illinois State Bar Association (1996-1997) ISBA Alternative Dispute Resolution Section Council (2004-2014, & 2015-present- **Chair** 2012-2013); **Board of Governors, ILLINOIS STATE BAR ASSOCIATION** (2001-2007); **Board of Governors, McHenry County Bar Association** (2019-20); **Board of Directors, INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION** (2002-present, **President**, 2007-2014); **Certified State Court Mediator**, 22nd Judicial Circuit-Major Civil Case, Small Claims (1996), 19th Judicial Circuit-Major Civil Case, Chancery, Small Claims (1996), 17th Judicial Circuit-Major Civil Case (2002), 21st Judicial Circuit Civil (2015); Cook County Circuit Court- Major Civil Case, Chancery (2004); **Certified Federal Civil Mediator**, US District Court, Northern District of Illinois (2002); MARTINDALE-HUBBEL AV (highest possible rating, 27 years); **Awarded:** Center for Analysis of Alternative Dispute Resolution System “Service to Community Award,” 2002 for contribution to court annexed mediation programs. **Chaired** Committee to establish major case mediation program and draft and approve mediation rules for 19th Judicial Circuit and for 22nd Judicial Circuit. **Awarded:** “Distinguished Service Award” by the McHenry County Bar Association, for volunteer mediation activities, 2004; **Instructor:** “Conflict Resolution” - North Central College, Naperville, IL (Graduate Studies) 2003-2006. **Appointed** Independent Arbitrator by the Board of Directors of the Illinois Workers Compensation Commission (2011-2017). **Inducted** into the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals (2013). **Appointed** by Illinois Supreme Court to Committee on Character and Fitness 2007-2017. **Appointed** mediator for the USATF (USA Track and Field) 2011-present.

ADR EXPERIENCE

Proposed and implemented a pilot program staffed by local bar to mediate pro-se small claims disputes in McHenry County and Lake County, Illinois to facilitate quicker disposition of claims for pro-se parties and shorten pro-se trial calendars. Trained all volunteer mediators, drafted proposed rules and forms. This program is now 19 years old and has been the model for Small Claims Mediation Programs which I have helped set up in a number of other jurisdictions. As a result of that experience, have been invited to lecture and meet with Court personnel in Manchester UK, Liverpool UK, London UK, Edinburgh UK, Belfast UK, Milan and Rome Italy.

Was one of the original **mediators** and chaired the committee that drafted the rules in the Court annexed mediation program for the 22nd and 19th Judicial Circuits. In addition, I am certified in the 17th and 21st Circuits (State Court) and on original panel of mediators for the Civil Mediation program in the Federal District Court (Rockford) and the Cook County Circuit Court both for Civil and Chancery cases. To date have mediated more than 2500 court cases.

Have been active **arbitrator** (primarily uninsured/underinsured motorist claims or cases where the parties have agreed voluntarily to arbitrate or are required to do so (as neutral) in more than 600 cases. Have served as a Court Arbitrator in both Lake and McHenry Counties since the inception of those programs.

In 2011 was appointed by the Board of the Illinois Workers Compensation Commission (and served for six years) as one of four “independent” arbitrators statewide to hear worker’s compensation claims filed by employees of the Illinois Workers Compensation Commission.

As a founding Board member (President 2007-2014) of the International Academy of Dispute Resolution (See www.inadr.org), a not-for profit organization which trains mediators and conducts mediation tournaments for students world-wide, I have participated in conducting training and competition at more than 75 tournaments in Chicago, Boston, Des Moines, London, Dublin, Liverpool, Oxford, Glasgow, Bhopal, India and Dubai, UAE.

Co-instructor of 40 hour training course for mediators outside the USA with the head of International Training for ADRg, one of the UK’s largest ADR providers. We provide a “co-badge” certificate recognized in the UK and most jurisdictions in the US requiring a 40 hour training program.

Taught a graduate course in Conflict Resolution at North Central College in Naperville, IL (2003-2006).

Lectured at numerous seminars (ISBA, ITLA, McHenry County Bar Association, Lake County Bar Association, National Association of Administrative Law Judges, INADR, **IICLE**) in US on various litigation and ADR matters. Trained mediators in London, UK, Dublin, Ireland, Belfast, Northern Ireland, Glasgow and Edinburgh, Scotland and Thessaloniki, Greece and throughout the Midwestern US. At the invitation of the US State Department, lectured law students on mediation in the Italian cities of Milan, Turin, Modena, Florence & Rome.

LITIGATION EXPERIENCE

Tried (as defense counsel) to verdict approximately three dozen jury cases including cases involving Medical Negligence, Legal Negligence, Product Liability, Auto accidents, School Bus accidents, fraud and premises liability. Jury cases tried in Cook, Lake, McHenry, Boone, Kane and Winnebago Counties and Federal Courts in Chicago and Rockford. Tried a number of bench trials primarily involving declaratory judgment actions and commercial disputes. Last ten years of active litigation practice concentrated on defense of Lawyer Liability (malpractice) cases – represented defendant attorneys in more than 100 legal malpractice lawsuits.

NON-LEGAL

All-State Illinois High School Track and Field (1968), Captain and school record holder on Purdue University Track team (1968-72). Published in national medical journal (New England Journal of Personality – Sept 1973). Married to Sally in 1972, two sons and six grandchildren. Appointed by Mayor of Cary, IL to serve as Police Commissioner (1996-2012). Member of the Board of Directors for the McHenry County Youth Service Bureau for six years. President of Cary Youth Baseball Association (1992-93)

Frequent lecturer and author of articles regarding ADR and Juries.

For more information, please see

www.wemediate.info