



"My job as a neutral is to assist the parties in resolving their dispute in the most efficient, cost effective, and fair manner so that they can return to their day-to-day matters."

Hon. Ann Kough (Ret.) most recently served in the Los Angeles Superior Court as one of seven complex litigation judges and has earned a reputation for fairness, efficiency, and thoroughness in handling the most difficult and contentious cases.

ADR Experience and Qualifications

- Presided over virtually every substantive area of law, including:
 - Business/Commercial
 - Toxic Tort
 - Environmental
 - Construction Defect
 - Insurance
 - Employment
 - Legal Malpractice
 - Medical Malpractice
 - Personal Injury

Representative Matters

- Discovery Referee for toxic cleanup dispute between the City of Santa Monica and numerous oil companies regarding MTBE in groundwater
- Discovery Referee for class action product liability lawsuit regarding dental bonding agent
- Arbitrator in multi-million dollar construction defect matter involving resort
- Trial judge by reference for eminent domain action between oil pipeline and railroad
- Dispute over construction of the Belmont high school complex, including related legal malpractice action. Included claims by the School Board of False Claims Act violations by the general contractor and subcontractors and improper environmental analysis by legal counsel
- Related class actions and individual disputes between approximately 100 homeowners associations, as well as individual homeowners, and their insurance carriers over damages incurred in the 1994 Northridge Earthquake
- Related class action lawsuits concerning the timing of payments of wages in the entertainment industry, involving more than 30 parties
- All class actions and individual suits in the state of California over injuries alleged to have been caused by the drug Rezulin, involving more than 100 parties and the use of a website for case management
- Judicial Council Coordinated consumer action against various hotels over compliance with environmental laws re: cigar smoke, involving more than 50 parties
- Related class actions and individual lawsuits over fax advertising, commonly referred to as "blast faxes," including legal issue of first impression concerning interplay of state law and the federal TCPA
- Consumer dispute over compliance with environmental laws concerning the transportation, storage, and loading of coal products in the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, CA.
- Disputes over mold and other toxic substances allegedly found in large apartment complexes
- Numerous construction defect actions involving large developments with hundreds of subcontractors
- Investment fraud matter involving large law firm and large accounting firm that allegedly induced international investors to invest in undercapitalized company

Honors, Memberships, and Professional Activities

- Distinguished Service Award, San Fernando Valley Bar Association, 1997
- Member, California Judges Association (Executive Board Member, 1995-1997), 1989-present
- Member, National Association of Women Judges (Chair, 2000 Annual Conference Committee), 1989-present
- Frequent speaker at numerous legal seminars, including:
 - Los Angeles County Bar Environmental Law Super Symposium, 2005
 - ABA Corporate Counsel Section Seminar, 2002

- West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar, 2001
- Women's Forum Focus, 2000, 1995
- Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles seminar, 1996, 1997
- Barrister's Walk Thru Program, San Fernando Valley Bar Association, 1997
- California Judges' Association Annual Conference, 1993
- Faculty, California Center for Judicial Education and Research, 1992-1998
- Faculty, Continuing Judicial Studies Program, 1992-1996

Background and Education

- Judge, Superior Court (Complex Litigation program and "fast track" civil), 1997-2002
- Judge, Municipal Court, Los Angeles Judicial District, 1989-1997
- General Counsel, Pacific Triangle Management Corporation, 1986-1988
- Partner, O'Loughlin, Kough & Katz, 1983-1986
- Associate, Loeb & Loeb LLP, 1982-1983
- Deputy City Attorney, City of Los Angeles, 1979-1982
- J.D., University of California, Los Angeles School of Law, 1978
- M.A., Sociology, California State University, Fullerton, 1977
- B.A., Sociology, *magna cum laude*, Whitworth College, Spokane, WA, 1973

References Available Upon Request