

## FN-11764 MN-11764 LN-11764, Esq.

Acworth, Georgia



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Current Employer-Title GC Solutions, LLC - Managing Member

Panelist Video https://www.adr.org/videoresume?paramName=725680828

**Profession** Attorney, Arbitrator, Mediator, Retired Judge

Work History

Member, GC Solutions LLC (part time), 2020 – Present; Partner, Rome McGuigan, 1993 – 2001 & 2009 – 2019; Judge, State of Connecticut, 2001 – 2009; Of Counsel, Bailey & Weschler, 1992; FDA

and Litigation Counsel, Union Carbide Chemicals and Plastics Company Inc., 1989 – 1992; Litigation Management Attorney, Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals Inc., 1985 – 1989; Trial Attorney, Regnier Taylor Curran & Langenbach, 1978 – 1985; Temporary Assistant Clerk,

1977-1978, New Haven Superior Court, Connecticut.

**Experience**Over 40 years' experience practicing in the legal profession. In April 2001, was appointed as a Connecticut Superior Court Judge. Served for eight years, presiding over thousands of cases. Upon

leaving the bench in April 2009, returned to Rome McGuigan as a Partner.

Worked as a partner/ trial attorney with Rome, McGuigan and Sabanosh, P.C. (1993 – 2001), defending medical and legal malpractice cases, as well as prosecuting and defending personal injury and commercial and banking law cases, environmental law and worker compensation cases.

While serving as Counsel at Union Carbide Chemicals and Plastics Company (1989 – 1992), managed litigation throughout the U.S. in areas of products liability and environmental matters. Selected, managed, and supervised outside counsel and coordinated internal discovery. Was FDA counsel and advised the company and its subsidiaries on food and drug matters. Reviewed material safety data sheets for regulatory compliance and coordinated and participated in the in-house program for safety and regulatory compliance.

At Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (1985 – 1989), managed litigation, including the selection and supervision of outside counsel, coordinated internal discovery and advised corporate officers about matters involving the pharmaceutical products and medical devices of the company

and its subsidiaries, including Roxanne Labs and BI Animal Health. Responsibilities also included environmental lawsuits and employment lawsuits including, sex harassment claims, wrongful discharge claims, employee expense reimbursement claims and assistance on new product and technology acquisitions, as well as advising on FDA, FTC and safety and regulatory concerns, and reviewing of real estate contracts.

At Regnier, Taylor, Curran and Langenbach (1978 – 1984), defended clients insured for automobile, homeowner, and medical and legal malpractice claims for various insurance carriers (The St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Co., Pioneer, GEICO, USAA, The Hartford, UTICA). A smaller portion of practice involved worker compensation, real estate law and contract law.

While most of the professional career was a mix of litigation and commercial law experiences, a number of AAA cases (about 30%) have involved healthcare matters-including insurance company/service provider- fee reimbursement disputes.

## **Mediator Experience**

Since June of 2009, has worked with parties in over 130 mediations, including (Fall of 2022) the settlement of the largest motor vehicle personal injury jury verdict case in Connecticut Superior Court history. While the \$23 million dollar verdict was on a lengthy appeal, interest was running at about \$6,000 a day. A key issue was encouraging additional excess carrier participation in the settlement; (6/2009) Fairfield County will contest at probate between family and last care providers in an estate valued at high six figures, with professional conduct issues, favorably mediated without appeal; (10/2009) auto personal injury, about 5% neck and shoulder of master arm to, then, professional athlete, tennis, now psychologist, mediated settlement in low six figures; (11/2009) trip and fall, premises liability to 50+ female, who tripped and fell due to poor lighting as she exited workplace still under construction, difficult worker compensation issues with 15% to lower back over pre-existing, favorably mediated in low six figures; (11/2009) auto rear-ender on interstate, minor collision with no causational expert and over \$240,000 in specials, not resolved; (11/2009) auto accident, additur or re-trial and mediated for settlement of trial court additur; (12/2009) new construction, home owner/builder dispute with million dollar Fairfield County home, with demand over \$100,000 mediated to settlement for \$12,500.

During eight-year tenure on bench as a Trial Judge, pre-tried and mediated hundreds of cases. Types of disputes included: home construction disputes (15-17); NASD securities disputes (3); employment non-compete cases (5-7); real estate zoning planning - commercial projects (20-40); probate appeals (6-10); municipal tax appeals (10-15); and licensing and intellectual property disputes (5-10).

E-discovery dispute involved in referral from State court Complex Litigation in 2013 where hedge fund partners disagreed as to compensation. Since there was extensive back and forth over retrieval and authentication of email and ,there were many orders made as to search words, topics and time frames of e discovery.

In September of 2021, after 3 days of mediation, helped to settle the largest auto-personal injury case in Connecticut State Court history. Interest was running at \$6,000 per day on the \$23 million dollar verdict.( Goncalves- Waterbury Superior Court).

## **Representative Issues** Handled as a Mediator

Construction cases - both commercial and residential have included disputes between owner and contractor, general contractor and subcontractors regarding failure to perform and delay damages.

Employment cases - executive compensation disputes, non-compete involving customer lists and "know how" use disputes; sexual harassment; wrongful discharge.

Insurance coverage disputes - personal injury cases for under-insured claims, as well as excess coverage claims.

FINRA-NASD disputes - involving broker dealers and former employees and partner compensation.

## **Preferences**

Mediator Style & Process The mediation process facilitates the settlement of disputed claims and the mediator's role is to encourage voluntary settlement. The mediator promotes fairness, self-determination and mutual respect among the participants. Having a caring sensitive neutral who listens actively to all parties can go a long way to resolving disputes which are often complicated by non-legal or personal issues. Education University of South Carolina (JD-1977; MA, International Studies-1975); University of Connecticut

(BA, Political Science-1972).

**Professional Licenses** Admitted to the Bar: Connecticut (1978), South Carolina (1978-inactive); U.S. District Court:

District of Connecticut (1979).

Professional Associations South Carolina Bar Association; Connecticut Bar Association.

Recent Publications & Speaking Engagements

Panelist, "Alternative Dispute Resolution 101, ADR Basics for Beginners", Fairfield County Bar Association 2017; Panelist, "Drafting and Implementing Modern ADR Clauses: How Business Lawyers and Litigators Together Can Get Better Results When a Deal Goes Bad," CT Bar Institute, Inc., 2012; Commentary, CODE OF EVIDENCE, Connecticut Rules of Court, 2000-2023; "Connecticut Trial Lawyers' Guide to Evidence in State and Federal Court," CONNECTICUT RULES OF COURT, West Publishing Co., 1983-99; "Saving and Recovering Money for Your Company Through the Second Injury Fund," THE CORPORATE BAR NEWS, Fall 1992; co-author, "A Proposal for Legislating Employee Drug Testing," CONNECTICUT LAW TRIBUNE, March 30, 1987; "The Practical Effects of Tort Reform on Medical Malpractice, Non-Profit Organization Immunity and Dram Shop," CONNECTICUT BAR JOURNAL, October 1988; co-author, "Termination of Life Support: A Proposal for a Model Act," CONNECTICUT LAW TRIBUNE, June 10, 1985. Speaker, "Role of a Connecticut Judge," Business Law Class, Joel Barlow High School, Spring 2008.

Mediation Rate \$600 Per Hour

**Languages** English

Citizenship United States of America

Locale Acworth, GA

The AAA's Rules provide the AAA with the authority to administer a mediation including, mediator appointment, general oversight and billing. Accordingly, mediations that proceed without AAA administration are not considered AAA mediations, even when the parties select an mediator who is on the AAA's Roster.

The information contained in this resume has been supplied solely by the individual mediator and may, or may not, be a complete recitation of their experience. The AAA assumes no responsibility for the content, completeness, accuracy, or reliability of the information contained in a mediator's resume. If you have any questions about a mediator's experience or background, you are encouraged to contact your case manager.

Mediators on the AAA Roster are not employees or agents of the AAA.