

FN-4033355 MN-4033355 LN-4033355, Esq.

Roswell, Georgia



View Video

Current Employer-Title Sparks Group, LLC - Arbitrator & Mediator

Panelist Video https://www.adr.org/videoresume?paramName=871087696

Professional SummaryGeorgia attorney with 43 years of experience in resolving disputes, member of the State Bar of Georgia and registered with the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution as a Mediator and Arbitrator.

Profession Arbitrator & Mediator

Work History Arbitrator & Mediator, Sparks Group LLC, 2019 - Present;

Sr. Vice President, Beazer Homes, LLC 2018-2019

General Counsel, John Wieland Homes JWC Collection 2014 - 2018; Region President, Lennar Homes Southeast Region, 2006 - 2014; Sr. Vice President, Pulte Homes Jacksonville, 2003 - 2005;

General Counsel, Colony Homes, 2000 - 2003; General Counsel, Torrey Homes 1995 - 2000; Partner, Kessler & Sparks, Attorneys 1981 - 1995.

Experience Georgia attorney licensed in 1981. Law practice was primarily focused on state and federal court

trials and complex real estate issues. In the mid 90's left the law practice to serve as general counsel and senior management roles for various construction and home-building companies. Since 2019

full time mediator and arbitrator.

Extensive experience with small and mid-scale construction projects, shopping center development, office park development, single-family homes, multi-story condominiums, homeowner associations, construction defect claims, insurance claims, reinsurance, subrogation claims, environmental claims, large land purchases, business purchases and acquisitions, joint ventures, and divestitures, and finance.

Previously licensed as a general contractor (currently inactive) in North and South Carolina.

Mediator Experience

Mediated cases involving business acquisitions (M&A), homebuilder sales agreements, consumer sales, employee/employer claims, estate claims, and domestic relations matters.

Representative Issues Handled as a Mediator Cases mediated include included a case between a large homebuilder that purchased a smaller builder for breach of an acquisition contract, a case between a homebuilder and its customer over a breach of warranty, a dispute between a homebuilder, its insurer and the customer (multiparty) over coverage, several estate claims involving contests related to years support, and numerous cases involving child support, child custody and property division cases.

Preferences

Mediator Style & Process Tried cases in State and Federal courts for the first 15 years after bar admission. During that time, the average civil case took 3-5 years for the courts to resolve. The saying that "justice delayed is justice denied" is very true. Mediation allows the parties to reach a resolution for far less time and expense, and also allows the parties to craft a settlement that might otherwise be unavailable in a trial.

Technology Proficiency

Zoom, WebEx, Teams, Co-Pilot (AI), Calendly.

Education

Woodrow Wilson College of Law (JD - 1981); Georgia State University (BS, emphasis on Criminal

Justice - 1978).

Henning Arbitration Training 2019; Henning Mediation Training 2019; Harvard Program on Negotiation, 2019;

American Bar Association, Arbitration Training Institute 2024.

Professional Licenses

Admitted to the Bar: Georgia (1981), Georgia Court of Appeals; Georgia Supreme Court; U.S.

District Court Northern District of Georgia; U.S. Court of Appeals, 11th Circuit.

Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution registered as an Arbitrator and a Mediator 2019 - present.

Professional Association American Bar Association Georgia Bar Association

Georgia Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section, Board of Directors (2024 to present)

Atlanta Bar Association

Atlanta Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section, Board of Directors (2021 - present), Vice

Chair 2024.

Recent Publications & Speaking Engagements Moderator, Atlanta Bar Association, "Best Practices in Employment Mediation", November 2, 2022

Moderator, Atlanta Bar Association Construction Law and Dispute Resolution Sections, "Drafting and Negotiating Successful Dispute Resolution Provisions", October 27, 2021.

Locations Where Parties Metro Atlanta Area. Will Not be Charged for **Travel Expenses**

With a commitment for one day of hearing or more and with prior arrangement, will travel throughout Georgia as well as the neighboring states.

\$325 Per Hour **Mediation Rate**

Languages English

United States of America Citizenship

Roswell, GA Locale

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.