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Coral Gables, Florida



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Current Employer-Title Joseph M. Matthews, P.A. - Principal/Mediator/Arbitrator/Special Master/Advocate

Panelist Video <https://www.adr.org/videoresume?paramName=264671567>

Professional Summary Arbitrator in over 400 domestic and international cases. Mediator in over 100 domestic and international cases. Chartered Arbitrator, CIArb; Fellow, College of Commercial Arbitrators; Member, National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals, Former member, Board of Directors and Executive Committee, AAA. Formerly trial and appellate advocate for 45 years after graduating first in class from UMiami Law in 1977. Fellow and Past President-International Academy of Trial Lawyers; Fellow-American College of Trial Lawyers; American Law Institute; Honorary Benchers, Inn of Court of Northern Ireland. Professor, author. Lecturer at UMiami; Florida Int. Law; National University of Mongolia; Univ. Dundee, Scotland; Central Party School, Beijing, and Dubai.

Profession Arbitrator, Mediator, and Special Master - International and Domestic Business, Trade, Employment, and Consumer Disputes, including Construction, Financial Services, Insurance, Securities, Mining and Energy, Infrastructure, Mergers and Acquisitions, Infrastructure, Joint Ventures and other Business Relationships, Class Actions, Government Contracts, Information Technology, Hospitality, and Health Care.

Work History Joseph M. Matthews, P.A., 2002-present; Partner, Colson Hicks Eidson, 1989-2017; Special Counsel, Senator Bob Graham, 1989; Partner, Murai Wald Biondo & Matthews, 1980-1989; Special Counsel, Division of Florida Land Sales and Condominiums, 1979-1980; Associate, Paul Landy & Beiley, 1977-1979.

Experience DOMESTIC - 47 years of experience as advocate, arbitrator, mediator, and special master. Cases include business, contract, construction, insurance coverage, reinsurance, insurance agent, business interruption and property loss, directors and officers liability, property and casualty, life/health and disability, professional liability and crop insurances; professional liability, securities, financial services, corporate finance and public finance, partnership and mergers and acquisitions, hospitality, business and consumer fraud, labor and employment, sports, class action and personal injury disputes.

INTERNATIONAL - 27 years of experience as advocate and mediator. Cases include investment treaty arbitration, international commercial arbitration, maritime insurance and reinsurance treaty disputes and general business disputes under all the major international arbitration forums and teaching international arbitration in Europe, Asia, and North America.

Mediator Experience

Certified Mediator, Center for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR); State of Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit Mediator; Certified Mediator under the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida; conducted more than 75 mediations as a neutral involving complicated business disputes between privately owned businesses engaged in varied fields, including construction, insurance and reinsurance, health care, banking, mortgage, securities, and general business activities; specific mediations involving government agencies including the City of Miami, the State of Florida Department of Financial Services and an agency of the government of the Dominican Republic, as well as tort and negligence disputes, including sophisticated product liability and medical malpractice. Mediated class actions in court and arbitration; multi-party construction disputes; mass tort claims; and multi-insurance coverage disputes.

13 years practice as mediator. Approximately 100 cases as mediator.

Representative Issues Handled as a Mediator

A selection of the primary issues handled as Mediator includes multi-party construction, maritime, technology transfer, international food distribution, buy-out compensation in partnership dispute, present valuation of long term contract between government agency and provider of construction services, resolution of complicated class action against City related to parking fees charged, re-allocation of mortgages as part of securitization in rescission action, resolution of language interpretation as part of P&C liability reinsurance treaty between re-insurer and Department of Financial Services, as liquidator, healthcare billing, Medicare reimbursements, ERISA, sophisticated product liability and medical malpractice issues.

Mediator Style & Process Preferences

As an advocate for many different types of parties over the past 30 or more years in Florida since mediation has been legislatively mandated in every dispute, I have observed many different approaches to mediation and many different philosophies. Mediation is not a "one size fits all" process. I have generally been impressed by mediators who spend the time necessary to understand the motivations and personal characteristics of the decision makers involved and try to employ those techniques best suited to resolving the dispute between those parties. Of course, mediators bring their own personalities and abilities to the process and not every mediator is suited to every dispute. Now that I have several years and more than 75 cases as a mediator, the best statement of philosophy is that I listen carefully to the parties and their counsel, learn as quickly as possible how they approach the dispute and then, employ the tools and personalities best suited to resolve that specific dispute between those specific parties. Perhaps most important, I am very persistent and do not permit small hurdles to disrupt the path toward resolution of disputes.

Technology Proficiency

Early adapter of information technology in trial practice. First employed Microsoft PowerPoint in court proceeding in 1996.
Co-Founder of Legal Vision, Inc., creator of TrialWorks litigation support software in 1996.
Co-Founder of The Virtual Dispute Resolution Project, a non-profit that predated the pandemic and promoted virtual dispute resolution.
Co-Author of Law Review Article, "Online Arbitration of Cross-Border, Business to Consumer Disputes (with Karen Stewart), UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI LAW REVIEW, vol. 56, p.1111, 2003.
Comfortable and able to adapt to all developing technologies that help improve efficiency and increase the quality of dispute resolution.

Education

University of Miami (JD, summa cum laude-1977); The Defiance College (BA, magna cum laude -1974).

Professional Licenses

Admitted to the Bar: Florida (1977), District of Columbia (1979); U.S. District Court: Southern (1978), Northern (1980), and Middle (1989) Districts of Florida; U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit (1981); U.S. Court of Federal Claims (1990); U.S. Supreme Court (2004).

Professional Associations

American Arbitration Association, Board of Directors (2003-2015); Executive Committee - (2013-2015); Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (Fellow and Chartered Arbitrator); College of Commercial Arbitrators (Fellow); National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals Member (2013-Present); The Dispute Board Federation (Director 2018); American Law Institute (2014-Present); American Bar Association (1977-Present); Florida Bar Association (1977-Present);

District of Columbia Bar Association (1979-Present); Miami-Dade County Bar Association (1977-Present); International Academy of Trial Lawyers (1999-Present, President 2015); American College of Trial Lawyers (2006-Present); American Board of Trial Advocates (2007-Present).

Recent Publications & Speaking Engagements

“Revision of the Arbitration Act 1996; The Case for Arbitral Independence” THE HIBERNIAN LAW JOURNAL Vol. 22 at 43 (2023) (with James Stitt); “Emergency Relief in Domestic and International Construction” THE CONSTRUCTION LAWYER, Spring 2019 (with Kate Krause) “Difficult Transitions Do Not Always Require Major Adjustment - It's Not Time to Abandon Party-Nominated Arbitrators in Investment Arbitration,” ICSID REVIEW - FOREIGN INVESTMENT LAW JOURNAL, 2011; “Transparency in Investment Arbitration: A Creeping Reality?,” 4 NEW YORK DISPUTE RESOLUTION LAWYER, Spring 2011, 49-50; “Time to Evaluate the Standards for Issuance of Interim Measures of Protection in International Investment Arbitration,” ARBITRATION INTERNATIONAL, vol. 25, issue 4, 2009; “Recognition and Enforcement of U.S. Class Action Judgments and Settlements in Switzerland,” REVUE SUISSE DE DROIT INTERNATIONAL ET DE DROIT EUROPEEN, 2008; “Are Florida Courts Really Parochial When it Comes to Arbitration? A Rebuttal,” THE FLORIDA BAR JOURNAL, December 2007; “Let the Sun Shine In and be Proud: The Case for Arbitration Rules that Presumptively Grant Public Access to All Arbitration Proceedings,” TRANSNATIONAL DISPUTE MANAGEMENT JOURNAL, 2006; “Consumer Arbitration: Is It Working Now and Will it Work in the Future?” THE FLORIDA BAR JOURNAL, vol. 79, no. 4, April 2005; “Online Arbitration of Cross-Border, Business to Consumer Disputes,” UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI LAW REVIEW, vol. 56, p.1111, 2003; “Time to Evaluate the Standards for Issuance of Interim Measures of Protection in International Investment Arbitration,” ARBITRATION INTERNATIONAL, vol. 25, issue 4, 2009; “Recognition and Enforcement of U.S. Class Action Judgments and Settlements in Switzerland,” REVUE SUISSE DE DROIT INTERNATIONAL ET DE DROIT EUROPEEN, 2008; “Are Florida Courts Really Parochial When it Comes to Arbitration? A Rebuttal,” THE FLORIDA BAR JOURNAL, December 2007; “Let the Sun Shine In and be Proud: The Case for Arbitration Rules that Presumptively Grant Public Access to All Arbitration Proceedings,” TRANSNATIONAL DISPUTE MANAGEMENT JOURNAL, 2006; “Consumer Arbitration: Is It Working Now and Will it Work in the Future?” THE FLORIDA BAR JOURNAL, vol. 79, no. 4, April 2005; “Online Arbitration of Cross-Border, Business to Consumer Disputes,” UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI LAW REVIEW, vol. 56, p.1111, 2003

RECENT LECTURES AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Bar of Ireland Continuing Professional Development presentation, “Negotiation, Conflict Resolution, and Mediation with reference to the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Act 2023” (November 16, 2023); “Legends of the Courtroom,” University of Miami School of Law, Panel Discussion on Technology and Law in Arbitration (October 13, 2023); Center for International Legal Studies/Lazarsky University, LLM Program, Transnational Commercial Practice - International Dispute Resolution, June 2022; Stockholm University Guest Lecture - March 24, 2022; FIU Law School Class “Transnational Representation and Advocacy - Fall Semester 2020; Construction SuperConference 2019 – Emergency and Interim Relief in Domestic and International Construction Arbitration – December 2019; IATL Uganda Judiciary Collaborative – Case Management and ADR – October 29-November 2, 2018; NCMG International Commercial Arbitration Training – ADR for Nigerian Judiciary – July 25-27, 2018 – Dubai, UAE December 11, 2017 – Faculty of Advocates – Edinburgh Scotland – Trial and Arbitration Advocacy from a US Attorney’s Viewpoint April 6, 2017; Global Pound Conference – Miami – Panel Moderator, November 17-18, 2016; Dublin Arbitration Day 2016, Moderator Young Practitioners’ Program and Speaker, Panel Discussion – Third Party Funding September 2016; IBA Barrister Forum – Trial Demonstration April 2016 – Speaker – International Advocacy Training Conference – Belfast, Northern Ireland, October 2014

Mediation Rate

\$500 Per Hour

Languages

English

Citizenship

United States of America

Locale

Coral Gables, FL

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.