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*independent
workplace
investigations
mediation & arbitration*

PROFESSIONAL BIOGRAPHY OF KATHERINE J. EDWARDS

MY PRACTICE

Throughout my legal career, I have specialized in negotiating, litigating, and mediating employment law related disputes. In my current practice, I serve exclusively as a neutral, continuing my devotion to addressing and resolving workplace conflict as a private mediator and as an independent investigator.

As a full-time neutral, I have been involved in such diverse employment disputes as discrimination, harassment, retaliation, public policy and whistleblower claims, defamation, privacy rights, contract disputes, wage & hour, trade secrets, unfair competition, and wrongful termination in all procedural stages from pre-litigation to appeal. My experience in evaluating and resolving workplace disputes extends to religious and non-profit organizations, private industry, and the public sector, including community colleges, universities (public and private), school districts, police and fire departments, cities, counties, and other governmental and quasi-governmental entities throughout California.

MY BACKGROUND

Full-time Neutral since 2000:

- Private mediator, primarily of employment law and related matters
- Independent investigator of allegations of workplace misconduct

Attorney:

Partner, Masters & Ribakoff, Santa Monica
1993-2004

Associate Attorney, Anticouni & Anticouni, Santa Barbara
1991-1993

Associate Attorney, Allred, Maroko, Goldberg & Ribakoff, Los Angeles
1989-1991

Education:

Pepperdine University School of Law, Malibu
J.D., cum laude, 1989

University of Washington, Seattle
B.A., Sociology, 1983

SELECT AFFILIATIONS, ASSOCIATIONS AND ACHEIVEMENTS

Society of Independent Workplace Investigators (“SIWI”) - founding member and Treasurer, California Association of Workplace Investigators (“CAOWI”), Society of Corporate Compliance & Ethics, Association for Conflict Resolution (“ACR”), Southern California Mediation Association (“SCMA”), American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution and International Law Sections, State Bar of California, Labor and Employment Law Section, Los Angeles County Bar Association, Labor and Employment Law Section, California Employment Lawyers Association (“CELA”), Editorial Advisory Board - California Causes of Action, James Publishing, Inc., Discrimination Complaint Investigator - Special Committee on Investigative Oversight, City of Los Angeles, Hearing Officer - City of Santa Monica Personnel Board, Arbitrator - National Association of Securities Dealers (“NASD”), Arbitrator - Kaiser Permanente Member Arbitration Panel, State of California Second Appellate District Court of Appeal- Settlement Hearing Officer, United States District Court, Central District - Attorney Settlement Officer Panel, Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles - ADR Neutral Panel (including Early Mediation Pilot Program, ADR Party Pay Panel, and West District Pilot Program)

Have served as an expert witness and consultant in issues related to workplace investigations

AV-rated by Martindale-Hubbell

Author and speaker for a variety of organizations including the American Bar Association, Los Angeles Birth and Infant Guide, CEB, CELA, SCMA, Beverly Hills Bar Association, Los Angeles County Bar Association, the Los Angeles City Attorney’s Office, and international law firms