



Ronald B. Leighton

MEDIATOR • ARBITRATOR

WAMS Mediator Certification: 2020

Expertise Areas:

- Civil Rights & Government/Public Agency
- Employment Litigation/ADA/WLAD
- Environmental Law/CERCLA/Clean Water Act
- Personal Injury/Wrongful Death/Asbestos
- Maritime/Jones Act
- Intellectual Property

Accomplishments:

After serving eighteen years as a United States district judge in Tacoma, WA, Ron Leighton transitioned to a mediation and arbitration practice with WAMS. In addition to his distinguished service on the federal bench, Judge Leighton has practiced law in Washington for a combined 28+ years representing plaintiffs and defendants in business disputes, catastrophic personal injury, products liability, professional negligence, employment, aviation, environmental and intellectual property litigation. He has tried more than sixty complex cases to verdict.

During his career on the federal court bench, Judge Leighton presided over jury and bench trials, as well as dispositive motions in: Civil Rights (Section 1983, Excessive Force, Education Plans); Commercial Litigation; Employment Litigation; Environmental Law; False Claims (Qui Tam); Immigration; Indian Law (Compacts, Hunting/Fishing Rights); Intellectual Property (Patent, Copyright, Trademark); Labor (FLSA, Railway Labor Act, ERISA); Maritime, and; Personal Injury (Medical Malpractice, Product Liability, Asbestos).

Judge Leighton utilizes his unique skills and experience to assist parties to breakthrough impasse and reach resolution. He is available to mediate, arbitrate and serve as Special Master.

Education:

- Professional Mediation Skills Training Program, Straus Institute, Pepperdine Law School, 2020
- University of California, Hastings College of Law, J.D., 1976
- Whitworth College, B.A., 1973

Affiliations:

Washington Arbitration and Mediation Service • Washington State Bar Association • Tacoma Pierce County Bar Association • Western District of Washington • Federal Bar Association • American College of Trial Lawyers • American Board of Trial Advocates • International Society of Barristers • Washington Defense Trial Lawyers