

# RACHEL K. EHRLICH CURRICULUM VITAE

# **EXPERIENCE**

**Mediation.** Ms. Ehrlich's multi-faceted background as a casualty and coverage attorney, insurance claims person, underwriter, and executive makes her perspective on mediation unique. Ms. Ehrlich has a deep understanding of the insurance industry and the factors that motivate both claimants and insurers to settle cases. By establishing rapport with the parties through candid communications, she develops effective resolution plans that are acceptable to opposing parties in mediation.

**Strategic Resolution Planning.** Throughout her career, Ms. Ehrlich has developed and executed strategic resolution plans for thousands of pre-litigation disputes and litigated cases. She has undertaken multiple roles in the mediation process: decision-maker, mediator, counsel of record, party representative, and insurance executive with the final settlement authority. Ms. Ehrlich's most satisfying work has been the facilitation of negotiated resolutions of multi-party disputes.

**Insurance Claims.** As a claims executive, Ms. Ehrlich was responsible for ensuring the appropriate handling and resolution of over 20,000 claims, representing hundreds of millions of dollars in reserves. She evaluated matters to determine the merit of the claim, the reasonableness of alleged damages, and the settlement value the claim. As an insurance company executive, she established claims handling standards, administered audits, and addressed reinsurance issues.

**Insurance Coverage and Bad Faith.** As an insurance coverage lawyer, Ms. Ehrlich advised her client-employer regarding appropriate handling and resolution of matters across the country. She drafted policy language, managed coverage and bad faith litigation, and represented insurance companies in coverage disputes and litigation. This insurance coverage experience and expertise adds value to the resolution process, allowing her to understand and address insurance coverage positions that might pose an obstacle to resolution. Ms. Ehrlich's expertise includes property, liability, and automobile coverage, regulatory compliance, and good faith claim handling country-wide.



# Expertise in Cases Involving:

Serious Personal Injury Wrongful Death Automobile Accidents Construction Site Accidents Premises Liability Product Liability Toxic Tort

Sexual Misconduct/Assault Life Sciences Property Damage Defective Construction Contamination Landlord Tenant Real Estate

# Expertise in Insurance Coverage:

(ISO and Specialty)

# **Commercial Lines**

General Liability Excess Liability / Umbrella (supported and unsupported) Automobile Liability / First Party Medical (medpay and personal injury protection) / Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist / Comp & Collision Property OL&T (Owners Landlords & Tenants) Errors & Omissions Employment Practices Liability Directors & Officers Liability Employee Dishonesty (including fidelity bond cover) Environmental Garagekeepers On- and Off-shore Energy

# **Personal Lines**

Liability – Homeowners and Personal Liability Excess / Umbrella (supported and unsupported) Property – Homeowners and Dwelling Automobile – Liability / First Party Medical (medpay and personal injury protection) / Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist / Comp & Collision



# ADR-RELATED APPOINTMENTS

Judicate West Mediator

US District Court, Northern District of California Mediator Early Neutral Evaluator

Superior Court of California, Alameda County ADR Administration Committee Mediator Civil Mediation Panel Mediator Unlawful Detainer Mediation Program

Superior Court of California, Contra Costa County Mediator Settlement Mentor

# ADR-RELATED AWARDS & RECOGNITION

SuperLawyer – Alternative Dispute Resolution Northern California 2018 & 2019

# **Negotiation/Mediation Process & Practice**

University of California, Hastings College of the Law San Francisco, CA – Spring Semester 1996 American Jurisprudence Bancroft-Whitney Award CALI Excellence For The Future Award



EMPLOYMENT (ADR, Insurance, Legal)

Ehrlich Mediation & Dispute Resolution Services Mediator	2014 – Present	
Mediate, evaluate, and arbitrate litigated and non-litigated matters.		
Affiliated with Judicate West. 2016 – Present		
CAMICO Mutual Insurance Company San Mateo, CA	2013 – 2014	
Chief Claims Officer & Vice President	and link liter and	
Manager of claims department of national mutual insurer providing professio employment practices liability coverage to CPAs.	hal liability and	
Navigators Management Company San Francisco, CA	2009 – 2013	
Senior Vice President, US Casualty Claims (2012 – 2013)		
Vice President Specialty Claims (2009 – 2012)		
Managed national departments handling primary and excess casualty, perso		
automobile, environmental, and commercial surety claims. Claims types inc construction site injuries and damages, construction defect, automobile injur		
product liability, premises liability, life sciences, global package, and surety.	ies and damage,	
The Travelers Indemnity Company Walnut Creek, CA	1997 – 2009	
Claim Legal Coverage, Managing Counsel, Construction Defect (2005 – 2009)		
Manager of national legal group providing dedicated construction defect claim related		
coverage advice and litigation management.		
National Team Leader/Coordinator for Regulatory Compliance (2004 – 2006)	. P	
Led team of attorneys serving national claims department on regulatory/com including responding to inquiries from state regulators, preparing for and respondences.		
market conduct exams, SIU referrals for prosecution, responding to federal a		
Homeland Security and Social Security), and advice and training on claims h		
regulations.	Ū	
Claim Legal Coverage Counsel (fka Dwain W. Bird & Associates) (1998 – 2005)		
Advice counsel for commercial and personal lines claims in eight Western states regarding property,		
inland marine, employee dishonesty, general liability, garagekeepers, auto, D&O and E&O issues and good faith claim handling and regulatory/compliance issues. Handled some high profile national		
matters outside of assigned territory and conducted audits of counterparts a		
Staff Attorney (Dwain W. Bird & Associates) (1997 – 1998)	ound the obuinty!	
Staff attorney handling all aspects of civil litigation for commercial lines and p	personal lines	
insureds.		
Robinson & Wood, Inc. San Jose, CA	1996 – 1997	
Associate Attorney	Charles and the set	
Civil litigation of tort and business disputes including patent and trademark ir malpractice, bodily injury, and insurance coverage and bad faith.	ifringement, legal	
Maloney & Associates (Aetna Staff Counsel) Walnut Creek, CA	1994 – 1996	
Law Clerk	1994 - 1990	
Alameda County Superior Court Law & Motion Department Oakland, C	A 1996 – 1996	
Judicial Extern to the Honorable Judge Sandra Margulies		
Wexford Underwriting Manager San Francisco, CA	1992 – 1993	
Assistant Underwriter		
American E&S (now known as RT Specialty) San Francisco, CA	1991 – 1992	
Claims and Office Administrator		



# **VOLUNTEER WORK**

# University of California, Hastings College of the Law

Alumni Association Board of Governors	2018 – Present
Co-Chair Student Liaison Committee	2019 – Present
Mentor students in job search and career planning	2007 – Present

# Alameda County Superior Court, ADR Administration Committee

Collaborate and consult with Judicial Officers, Court Staff, 2016 – Present and other Community members to insure appropriate provision of ADR Services to litigants and counsel

# ABA Committee on Mediator Ethical Guidance

Co-Chair	2019-Present
Member: Collaborate on opinion drafting and submission review	2015-Present

# **BAR ADMISSIONS**

**US Supreme Court** 

#### **California Supreme Court**

US Courts of Appeals for the Ninth and Tenth Circuits

**US District Courts of Northern California and Colorado** 

# **EDUCATION**

# University of California, Hastings College of the Law, San Francisco, CA

Juris Doctor, 1996 – Admitted to California Bar, December 1996 Hastings West Northwest Journal of Environmental Law & Policy, 1993-1996 (Executive Editor, 1995-1996)

# University of California, Santa Cruz

B.A. Politics, 1990 – Phi Beta Kappa, Honors in the Major, College Honors



# **ARTICLES**

# Alert for Attorneys Who Represent Clients in Mediation

Published by Alameda County Bar Association, February – 2019

# New Attorney Duties When Going To Mediation

Published by Bar Association of San Francisco, February - 2019

### Your own mediation-confidentiality agreement

Published by CAALA Advocate, Volume 45, Number 8 – August 2017

# **Questions Every Litigator Should Ask About Mediation Confidentiality**

Published by American Bar Association, Section of Litigation *Woman Advocate Committee* Vol. 21, No. 4 – Summer 2016

# Effective E-Signatures: Tips on Navigating the UETA

Published by Daily Journal Corp. California Lawyer - December 2015

# Shhhh! The Big Risk Associated With Mediation Confidentiality That Nobody Talks About

Published by *Mediate.com* – September 2014

# Independent Counsel (Walk-In or Reservations Required?)

Published by CLM Litigation Management – Winter 2014



# **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Dean School of Claims Mediation**

CLM Claims College Baltimore, MD – September 2019

### **Mapping Toward a Mediation Practice**

Bar Association of San Francisco San Francisco, CA – July 2019

### **Mediation and Negotiation Ethics**

Judicate West Sponsored for Law Firms and Organizations Various Locations, CA – May 2019

# Lifting the Veil – The Future of Confidentiality in Mediation and Settlement

CLM Annual Conference Orlando, FL – March 2019

### **Coverage Nightmares**

American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee CLE Seminar Tucson, AZ – March 2019

# **No More Failed Mediations**

National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies – Claims Conference Phoenix, AZ – February 2019

# When Bias Manifests In Mediation

Alameda County Bar Association Oakland, CA – January 2019

# Women In The Courtroom

Daily Journal Corporation – Women Leadership In Law San Francisco, CA – November 2018

# Making the Most of Mediation – 90+percent of ALL Cases Settle!

CLM Construction Conference Chicago, IL – September 2018

# **Dean School of Claims Mediation**

CLM Claims College Baltimore, MD – September 2018

# **Mediation and Negotiation Ethics**

Judicate West Sponsored for Law Firms and Organizations Various Locations, CA – June & August 2018



#### Mediator Risk Management – Malpractice Insurance

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – July 2018

#### **Claims Managers Speak – Moderator**

West Coast Casualty Construction Defect Seminar Anaheim, CA – May 2018

#### Mediation

Stanford Law School Palo Alto, CA – April 2018

#### **Mediation and Negotiation Ethics**

Judicate West Sponsored for Law Firms and Organizations Various Locations, CA – March & April 2018

#### Mediator Risk Management – Paperwork

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – February & April 2018

#### Mediation – Does Gender Matter?

Alameda County Bar Association Women Lawyers of Alameda County Oakland, CA – March 2018

# Does Sophie Have a Choice? Ethics and Consequences when Right to Independent Counsel is Triggered

CLM Annual Conference Houston, TX – March 2018

#### What Did 2017 Teach Us?

American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee CLE Seminar Tucson, AZ – March 2018

#### Mediation and Negotiation Ethics

Judicate West Sponsored for Law Firms and Organizations Various Locations, CA – February 2018

#### **Cannabis Insurance Symposium – Chair**

California Cannabis Industry Association, Insurance Committee Sacramento, CA – February 2018

# **Contrasting Mediation Perspectives: Claims Executives and Mediators**

DRI Insurance Coverage and Practice Symposium New York, NY – December 2017



#### **Mediation and Negotiation Ethics**

Judicate West Sponsored for Law Firms and Organizations Various Locations, CA – September 2017

### **Dean School of Claims Mediation**

CLM Claims College Baltimore, MD – September 2017 and ongoing

### **Faculty in Alternative Dispute Resolution School of Construction**

CLM Claims College Baltimore, MD – September 2017

#### Mediator Training

Maryland Circuit Court for Baltimore City, Civil Division, ADR Program Baltimore, MD – September 2017

#### **Claims Managers Speak – Moderator**

West Coast Casualty Construction Defect Seminar Anaheim, CA – May 2017

#### **Special Considerations for Special Education Mediation**

Northern California Attorneys & Advocates (NCAA) San Francisco, CA – April 2017

#### Mock Mediation – Explosive Coverage Arguments Meet Bad Facts

CLM Annual Conference Nashville, TN – March 2017

#### Deciding Whether to Jump into the Ring of Fire or Just Walk Away

CLM Annual Conference Nashville, TN – March 2017

#### **Mediator Training**

Maryland Circuit Court for Baltimore City, Civil Division, ADR Program Baltimore, MD – March 2017

#### Mediation and Negotiation Ethics

Judicate West Sponsored for Law Firms and Organizations Various Locations, CA – January 2017

#### Are Ethical Negotiations an Oxymoron?

Bar Association of San Francisco San Francisco, CA – December 2016



# Are Settlement Discussions Soundproof? The Confidentiality And Admissibility Of Settlement Negotiations And Offers In Extra-contractual Disputes

CLM New York Conference New York, NY – December 2016

### **Dean School of Claims Mediation**

CLM Claims College Baltimore, MD – September 2016

Faculty in Alternative Dispute Resolution and Executive Council Member School of Construction CLM Claims College Baltimore, MD – September 2016

# **Documenting the Deal**

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – August 2016

# The Set Up: How a Jurisdiction's Insurance Bad Faith Law Affects the Resolution of Construction Defect Claims

West Coast Casualty Construction Defect Seminar Anaheim, CA – May 2016

# Problems & Solutions: Resolving Multi-Layered Complex Construction Defect Cases

West Coast Casualty Construction Defect Seminar Anaheim, CA – May 2016

#### Negotiation

Guest lecturer/mediator UC Hastings School of Law San Francisco, CA – April 2016

# How Confidential Are Mediation Communications? You Might Be Surprised (Pitfalls for the Unwary and Tips to Avoid Them)

American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee CLE Seminar

Tucson, AZ – March 2016

# Mediation Ethics - But that was just posturing in a negotiation!

Various attorney audiences Various Locations, CA – January & April 2016

# **Ethics in Negotiations and Mediation**

Bar Association of San Francisco San Francisco, CA – December 2015



# Mediation Ethics - But that was just posturing in a negotiation!

Various attorney audiences Various Locations, CA – February 2015, May 2015, September 2015

### **Mediation Advocacy**

Guest lecturer/mediator UC Davis School of Law Davis, CA – November 2015

# **Dean, School of Claims Mediation**

CLM Claims College Philadelphia, PA – September 2015

# Faculty in Alternative Dispute Resolution and Executive Council Member School of Construction

CLM Claims College Philadelphia, PA – September 2015

### Insurance In Mediation: How Mediators Can Keep Liability Company Priorities From Derailing Settlement

Orange County Bar Association, Alternative Dispute Resolution Section Newport Beach, CA – June 2015

# Coverage Tail Wagging the CD Dog? Strategies for Handling Coverage Issues in Mediation

West Coast Casualty Construction Defect Seminar Anaheim, CA – May 2015

#### **Mediation Advocacy**

Guest lecturer UC Davis School of Law Davis, CA – April 2015

# How Mediators Can Keep Liability Insurance Company Priorities From Derailing Settlement

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – March 2015

# Streamlining Resolution of Complex Multi-Party Construction Cases

Second Annual Axis Construction Conference (Best Practices for Managing & Resolving Construction-Related Issues) San Francisco, CA – October 2014

# Mediation Ethics - But that was just posturing in a negotiation!

Various attorney audiences Various Locations, CA – October 2014



# Mediation – Issue Spotting for State Bar Prosecutors

California State Bar San Francisco, CA – September 2014

#### **Update on Mediation Confidentiality**

Construction Defect Claims Managers Association (CDCMA) Meeting San Diego CA – September 2014

#### **Executive Council Member School of Construction**

CLM Claims College Philadelphia, PA – September 2014

#### Are Insurers Attending Mediation Naked?

Construction Defect Claims Managers Association (CDCMA) Meeting El Segundo, CA – June 2014

# Risk Management – Avoiding, Mitigating & Covering Construction Exposures

AXIS Consulting Construction Forum 2013 San Francisco, CA – October 2013

#### Evaluation and Assessment, Impact Reporting

CLM Litigation Management Institute New York, NY – October 2013

#### **Construction Defect Claims and Insurance Issues Facing the Northeast**

West Coast Casualty Construction Defect Seminar Anaheim, CA – May 2013

# Litigation Management: Remodeling the Complex Case Management Order for Improved Case Performance and Metrics

Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (CLM) Annual Conference 2013 San Antonio, TX – April 2013

#### Plan and Prepare, Part Two: Selecting the Outside Response Team

Hinshaw Culbertson Insurance Services Symposium Chicago, IL – October 2011

# Moderator on Re-Examining the Case Management Order (perspectives from past efforts and a new proposal)

Construction Defect Claims Managers Association (CDCMA) San Diego, CA – March 2011



# Is It Ok to Be Wrong? Can An Insurer Avoid An Extra-Contractual Liability If Its Position Is Fairly Debatable? Hinshaw Culbertson Insurance Services Symposium

Chicago, IL – October 2010

# What the Insurer Client Wants from Counsel

Harmonie Group San Francisco, CA – September 2009

# **California & Other Jurisdictions Fair Claims Settlement Practices** Regulations

Various dates and locations



# PROFESSIONAL TRAINING RELEVANT TO ADR

Mediator Boot Camp (Ethics, Bias, And Mediating With Self-Represented Parties) Contra Costa County Bar Association, ADR Section Concord, CA – September 2019

Top Ten Coverage Decision of 2018 – Impact & Implications Ordinance or Law Coverage Truthiness & False Claims Act Liability Recoupment of Defense Costs: What is the State of Law? The Protection Gap in Property Insurance Ethical Issues Arising Out of Sharing Information American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee CLE Seminar Tucson, AZ – March 2019

### **Traumatic Brain Injury: Analyzing Claims**

National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies – Claims Conference Phoenix, AZ– February 2019

#### Acknowledging and Working Through Racial Bias

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – January 2019

# Handling the Handlers

# Ways to Best Tailor an Insurance Policy and Warranty Statement to Fit Your Client's Needs

American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee WIN Dallas, TX – November 2018

#### James Gilliland Symposium: A Dialogue on Rethinking Dispute Resolution

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – October 2018

#### Understanding the Role of Body Language in Mediation

The Mediation Society & JAMS San Francisco, CA – October 2018

#### What Every Mediator Should Know About Forgiveness

ABA Section of Litigation, ICLC, Women in Insurance Network Regional CLE San Francisco, CA – October 2017

# Who's Afraid of Real Mediation

Alameda County Bar Association Oakland, CA – October 2017



### **Mediator Practice Tips for Appellate Mediation**

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – August 2017

# Structured Negotiation: A Twenty Year Track Record Of Resolving Claims Without Lawsuits

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – May 2017

### Customizing the Mediation – The Mediator's Role as Process Architect

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – February 2017

# **Mediator's Proposals**

The Mediation Society Oakland, CA – November 2016

### **Dispute System Design: Underground to Online**

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – September 2016

#### **Unlawful Detainer Mediation**

California Superior Court of Alameda County and Alameda County Bar Association Oakland, CA – May 2016

# **Mediator Malpractice**

The Mediation Society Oakland, CA – May 2016

Making Use of the Behavioral Sciences: The practical implications for mediators of behavioral studies of litigant preferences, attorney handicapping and cognitive biases

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – April 2016

### Mediator Certification

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – March 2016

# Litigation Tree Analysis - What It Is and How It Can Best Be Used In Mediation

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – March 2016



# The Road to Cultural Understanding in a Diverse World: Recognizing and Avoiding Bias for More Successful Negotiations

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – October 2015

### **Mediation Confidentiality**

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – October 2015

### **Eva Paterson "Race Matters"**

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – October 2015

#### **Fee Arbitration**

Contra Costa County Bar Association Concord, CA – July 2015

#### Impasse

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – June 2015

#### American Arbitration Association

Higginbotham Fellows Program New York, NY – May 2015

# **US District Court ADR Program Mediation Training**

Northern District of California San Francisco, CA – April 2015

# **US District Court ADR Program Early Neutral Evaluation Training**

Northern District of California San Francisco, CA – April 2015

#### **Unlawful Detainer Mediation**

California Superior Court of Alameda County and Alameda County Bar Association Oakland, CA – March 2015

#### Challenges and Opportunities of Mediating with Elders and Their Families

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – January 2015

#### Mediating with Self-Represented Litigants

The Mediation Society San Francisco, CA – October 2014



#### Advanced Training Program: Interests

Center for Understanding in Conflict / Center for Mediation in the Law Mill Valley, CA – April 2014

### **Mediation and Conflict Resolution**

University of California Berkeley Berkeley, CA – March 2014

### **Litigation Management Institute**

Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (CLM) – Certified Litigation Management Professional New York, NY – October 2013

### **Mediation Practice Workshop**

American Arbitration Association San Francisco, CA – 1997

# **Negotiation/Mediation Process & Practice**

University of California, Hastings College of the Law San Francisco, CA – Spring Semester 1996 American Jurisprudence Bancroft-Whitney Award CALI Excellence For The Future Award

#### Mediation

University of California, Hastings College of the Law San Francisco, CA – Fall Semester 1995



# **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

(Present & Past)

ABA Section on Dispute Resolution – Committee on Mediator Ethical Guidance, Co-Chair 2019 (initial appointment September 2015)

ABA Section on Litigation

Alameda County Bar Association

California Dispute Resolution Council (CDRC)

Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (CLM) Mediator/Arbitrator Member Dean of Claims College School of Claims Mediation 2015 – 2019

First Tuesday Lawyers

Ladies Who Lunch Bay Area

The Mediation Society – Member (formerly on Board of Directors, Treasurer 2018/19)

Expired Memberships: Defense Research Institute (DRI) (exp 1998), Construction Defect Claims Managers Association (CDCMA) (exp 2012), Women's Construction Litigation Alliance (WCLA) (became part of CLM Diversity program in 2016), Mediate.com (exp 2016), San Francisco Bar Association (Ethics Committee) (exp 2019) Contra Costa County Bar Association (exp 2019), Attorney Action Club (San Francisco) (exp 2019)