



*Biographical Information*

**Hon. Michael B. Rutberg, Ret.**  
**Superior Court Judge**

Judge Rutberg has had experience with numerous products liability issues including both as a bench officer with nearly 30 years' experience including civil trials, law and motion and discovery matters and over 15 years as a private mediator and arbitrator. Since leaving the bench Judge Rutberg has been appointed by the Superior Court as a discovery referee in San Bernardino County and as a hearing officer in Los Angeles County.

**Areas of Practice**

Civil Rights ♦ Commercial Contracts / General Business ♦ Construction ♦ Discovery Reference ♦ Elder Care ♦ Eminent Domain ♦ Environmental ♦ Toxic Tort ♦ Fee Dispute ♦ Financial Markets ♦ Franchise ♦ Homeowners' Associates ♦ Insurance Coverage ♦ Bad Faith ♦ Legal Malpractice ♦ Official Misconduct ♦ Partnership Dissolution ♦ Personal Injury ♦ Products Liability ♦ Professional Liability ♦ Real Estate and Toxic Mold

**University**

J.D. University of California, Los Angeles  
B.A. University of California, Los Angeles

**Professional Affiliations**

State Bar of California; California Judges Association (Former member of ADR sub-Committee)

## **Judge Michael Rutberg's bio continued Page. 2**

### **Biography**

Judge Rutberg has been a trial judge in Southern California for over 25 years presiding over a wide variety of civil matters. While on the bench he has settled and mediated hundreds of civil matters. Since 2003, he has been a full time Neutral serving as mediator, arbitrator and discovery referee. He has successfully resolved all types of civil cases including personal injury, products liability, business/commercial litigation, construction, real estate, H.O.A. disputes and professional malpractice (legal and medical).

An experienced civil lawyer who recently worked with Judge Rutberg in a mediation remarked in writing on the Judge's "remarkable dedication and skills", further commenting as follows: "He demonstrated at least as much, if not more, enthusiasm and sincere interest in my clients' case than any neutral that I have had the honor of working with, and both before and after the mediation, he made efforts far beyond any that I have grown accustomed to expect. He has earned his place on my shortcut of short lists, and I am sure I shall never forget my experience with him in the very successful outcome of my clients' claims."

Judge Rutberg graduated UCLA (Phi Beta Kappa) and UCLA Law School where he served on the Law Review, Prior to his appointment to the bench, he was engaged in the private practice of law in Beverly Hills and Los Angeles, emphasizing family law, business disputes person injury litigation, construction and real estate law. He is a former instructor at the University of La Verne School of Law teaching mediation, arbitration and trial. He is also a former instructor of Business Law at California State University, Northridge. While on the bench Judge Rutberg served as an Associate Justice Pro Tempore, Court of Appeal, Second Appellate District, Division Five, authoring two published opinions.