



Biographical Information
Timothy R. Graves

Background

Tim Graves brings 35 years of experience in litigation, business management and dispute resolution to his new roles as mediator, arbitrator and consultant. When he retired from the practice of law in January 2020, he had played a key role in growing his firm to the largest in California and eighth largest in the country with over 50 offices in 25 states. Known for his ability to solve problems, he traveled nationwide addressing issues involving personnel, marketing, internal litigation, benefits, compensation and quality assurance. His crisis management was tested in 2014 when the Los Angeles office was forced to undergo a complete office relocation of over 600 employees and firmwide operations after experiencing a major fire.

In managing his firm, he had extensive dealings with governmental entities, financial service companies, insurance companies, real estate services, third party administrators, construction companies, health care providers, retailers, vendors and many other companies and organizations. In his practice, he developed excellent working relationships with the defense bar, the plaintiff bar and the judiciary.

Tim also managed a large portfolio of business and tried over 100 cases to verdict including 62 jury trials. He is a long-time member of ABOTA. He has participated in over 1000 mediations and arbitrations. He has also served as a mediator for the Los Angeles County Court system.

His creative thinking and approaches led to him being recognized as an industry leader in alternative fee arrangements, litigation management, performance metrics and cost control. Internally, he created the firm's compensation system, Pro Bono program, Quality Assurance Department and Trial Academy training program. He was a co-creator of the firm's pension plan and served as a trustee for many years.

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In summary, Tim has dealt with a very wide variety of litigation and business issues throughout his career. His breadth of experience will allow him to address virtually any dispute or concern that may arise in a mediation or arbitration setting. His skill with innovative and creative solutions will increase the chances of a mutually beneficial conclusion to any matter.

Legal Experience

Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith, 1985 – 2020

- National Managing Partner
- Executive Committee
- Los Angeles Managing Partner
- Practice Group Chairman
- Lead Trial Counsel

Education

- University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Juris Doctor, 1985
Editor, Journal of International Law & Commercial Regulation
- University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Bachelor of Science, Cum Laude, 1982

Areas of Expertise

- Personal Injury (Premises Liability, Auto, Wrongful Death)
- Healthcare (Medical Malpractice, Managed Care)
- Elder Law (Long Term Care, Financial Abuse)
- Professional Liability (E&O, A&E, Brokers, Accountants, Lawyers)
- Products Liability (Medical Products, Manufacturing)
- Governmental Agencies (Tort Claims, Civil Rights, False Arrest)
- Insurance (Coverage, ERISA, D&O, Bad Faith)
- Property (Commercial, Private, HOA, Construction, Habitability, Mold)
- Employment (Termination, Discrimination, Wage & Hour, Contracts)
- Business (Contracts, B&P 17200, Consumer, Financial Institutions)

Representative Experiences

- Served as Settlement Officer for LA County Voluntary Settlement Conference Program
- Recognized as Top 500 Most Influential Persons in LA County by Los Angeles Business Journal
- Served on Judicial Evaluations Committee of the LA County Bar
- Member of American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA)
- Served on Board of Association of Southern California Defense Counsel
- Appointed to Board of Directors for the University of North Carolina School of Law
- Member of Defense Research Institute (DRI) and Claims Litigation Management (CLM)
- Member of State Bar of California and admitted to California Supreme Court, California Court of Appeals and U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California

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