



Biographical Information

Stephen Lepley, J.D., LL.M. Mediator/Arbitrator

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS AND EXPERIENCE

EMPLOYMENT

CALIFORNIA DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROFESSIONALS LLC, Hermosa Beach, CA. 2014 - present.

Mediator. Founding and Managing Member of firm specializing in litigated case mediation throughout Southern California and Arizona.

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Malibu, CA. January 2017 - 2019.

Director of Professional Outreach for the Straus Institute, the top-ranked program in the United States for dispute resolution; **Adjunct Professor of Law**, teaching Negotiation Theory and Practice to Juris Doctor (J.D.) students, Master of Laws (LL.M.) students, international lawyers seeking LL.M. degrees, Masters in Dispute Resolution students, and Masters in Legal Studies students.

CHIEF COUNSEL, Financial Remedies Section, Criminal Division, and Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Arizona Attorney General, Phoenix, Arizona. 2004-2011.

Managing and lead prosecutor for twenty-five member team of civil trial lawyers, paralegals, investigators, property managers and other professional staff, pursuing financial remedies against criminal enterprises and individuals in state and federal courts. Highly specialized and complex trial and appellate prosecution of civil RICO actions, utilizing a broad variety of supporting civil litigation remedies including injunctive proceedings at the trial and appellate levels, disgorgement relief, receiverships, quiet title, forfeiture and partition actions. Team with federal, state and local law enforcement agencies, officers, and multi-jurisdiction task forces, in racketeering case prosecutions involving human and drug smuggling, gambling, financial fraud, conspiracy, money laundering and related crimes. Law enforcement partners included the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration; High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program offices; U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; U.S. Postal Inspection Service; U.S. Internal Revenue Service; United States

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Attorney offices; Arizona Department of Public Safety; and several state and federal law enforcement agencies within the federal republic of Mexico. Work with state departments of Financial Institutions, Insurance, and Corporation Commission and its Securities Division on related regulatory and licensure matters. Conducted successful multi-week civil racketeering trials. Judgments and negotiated settlements recovered hundreds of millions of dollars. Primary counsel for significant appellate litigation matters before the State Courts of Appeals and Supreme Court, with more than fifty appellate briefs filed, and more than a dozen oral arguments presented. Prosecuted and negotiated February 2010 settlement with Western Union Financial Services (\$94 million).

PRIVATE LAW PRACTICE, Scottsdale, Arizona 1997-2004.

Member/partner in AV-rated Scottsdale, Arizona law firms, representing plaintiff and defendant businesses and individuals in civil trial and appellate litigation. Developed and led civil litigation department, recruiting and training attorneys and developing section policies and procedures. Conducted trials and appeals in cases including breach of contract, negligence, real property and title litigation, fraud, conversion, conspiracy, misrepresentation, bad faith, securities and insurance broker liability, civil rights discrimination, wrongful discharge, and public employee whistleblower protection.

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL. Office of the Arizona Attorney General, Civil Division, Tax Section, Phoenix, Arizona 1992-1997.

Trial and appellate defense representation of State of Arizona and its Department of Revenue in civil litigation matters of statewide importance involving challenges to centrally valued utility property tax assessments. Cases included trial presentation of nationally recognized experts on issues of business valuation and related subjects, with property valuations occasionally exceeding \$1 billion. Trial and appellate representative cases included U.S. West, Southwest Airlines, Citizens Utilities Company, and Scottsdale Princess Resort.

COUNTY CORPORATION COUNSEL, Waukesha, Wisconsin 1978-1991.

Appointed Waukesha County (Wisconsin) Corporation Counsel 1988-1991, serving as head of county government's Department of Law. Managed, supervised and led nine lawyers and a supporting professional staff in providing legal counsel and advice on all governmental legal matters and cases to the County Board, County Executive, elected and appointed officials, other department heads and circuit court staffs. Assistant Waukesha County Corporation Counsel 1981-1988. Assistant Winnebago County Corporation Counsel 1978-1980. Advised twenty-six departments and more than thirty boards and commissions, including departments of human resources, finance, parks and planning, transportation, clerk of courts, social services, sheriff and jail. Developed expertise regarding open meetings law, open records law, zoning and land use issues, personnel law and risk management. Served as meeting parliamentarian for County Board and its standing and special committees. Drafted and reviewed all county ordinances for legal accuracy and sufficiency. Provided legal opinions and guidance in the transition from County Board to County Executive form of government. Developed countywide records retention and destruction policy. Oversaw RFP process and contract negotiation for \$100 million county waste-to-energy facility. Drafted and oversaw development and implementation of first County Ethics Code.

EDUCATION

MASTER OF LAWS IN DISPUTE RESOLUTION (LL.M.), Concentration in Mediation, Pepperdine University School of Law, Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, Malibu, California. Diploma 2015. 3.9 GPA.

JURIS DOCTOR (J.D.), Marquette University School of Law, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1978.

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Admitted State Bar of Wisconsin (May 1978) and Arizona (October 1991). Currently admitted to practice before the Federal District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Wisconsin, 7th Circuit Federal Court of Appeals, the Federal District Court for Arizona, and the Arizona Supreme Court.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (B.S.), Psychology, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, 1974.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS, OFFICES, TEACHING AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

MEMBER, STATE BAR OF ARIZONA; Section of Litigation, Trial Practice Committee, ADR Committee; Real Property Section; Bankruptcy Section; 1991 - present.

MEMBER, STATE BAR OF WISCONSIN, 1978-2008.

MEMBER, LOS ANGELES COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION; Real Property Committee, Bankruptcy Committee. 2015 - present.

PRESIDENT, PEPPERDINE/STRAUS AMERICAN INN OF COURT FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Member, Organizing and Executive Committees and President, 2017-2019. Affiliated with American Inns of Court, Washington, D.C., nationally associating more than 30,000 judges, lawyers, students, professors and other legal professionals in more than 450 local Inns of Court who share a passion for excellence, civility, professionalism and ethics in practice.

2010 AWARD OF HISTORIC DISTINCTION presented by Arizona Attorney General, for successful investigation, prosecution and settlement of facilitation of money laundering claims against Western Union Financial Services, Inc. See: http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/12/us/12arizona.html?_r=0. The case was identified by the National Association of Attorneys General when naming Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard its 2010 National Attorney General of the Year. See: <http://www.bizjournals.com/phoenix/stories/2010/06/14/daily49.html>.

2010 CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION presented by the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Office of National Drug Control Policy, Washington, D.C., recognizing outstanding achievements and significant contributions in the area of financial investigations.

2007 INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE CHOICEPOINT FIRST-PLACE AWARD for Excellence in Criminal Investigations.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBER 1994-1999, and **VICE-PRESIDENT** 1997-1999, Valley Big Brothers / Big Sisters, Phoenix, Arizona

BIG BROTHER to Little Brother Ryan, 1994-2001.

PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2003-2004, STONEGATE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, Scottsdale, Arizona, 1000 home residential master-planned community. Member, Board of Directors 2000-2004.

MEMBER, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MEDIATION ASSOCIATION, 2013 - 2019.

MEMBER, ASSOCIATION FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION, Arlington, VA. Invited lecturer at Association's annual National Conference, Dallas, TX, October 2017: "Emotional and Social Intelligence in Conflict Resolution."

PANEL MEMBER, California Association of Realtors Consumer Mediation Center.

MEMBER, MEDIATION.ORG.

GRADUATE, WISCONSIN ACADEMY OF TRIAL LAWYERS, 1986.

GRADUATE, ARIZONA TRIAL COLLEGE, 1993.

GRADUATE, NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR TRIAL ADVOCACY AND NATIONAL COLLEGE OF DISTRICT ATTORNEYS programs on civil and criminal trial prosecution, including the 2010 NCDA Executive Program for state Attorneys General, County Attorneys, and principal deputies of those offices.

REAL ESTATE BROKER licensed, Wisconsin Department of Real Estate, 1976-1991.