



*Biographical Information*

**Maria M. Rullo, Esq.**

Maria M. Rullo is an attorney with 38 years' experience in litigation and transactional matters including 15 years as General Counsel.

**Areas of Expertise:**

General Civil Litigation | Employment Law ♦ Human Resources ♦ Insurance Bad Faith Personal Injury ♦ Premises Liability ♦ Not-For-Profit Corporations ♦ Religious and Charitable Institutions ♦ Private Education ♦ Contracts ♦ Small to Medium Business Representation

Maria began her legal career in Health Care Law representing hospitals and medical group practices across the country in license and compliance issues. She served as Vice President and Corporate Counsel for a major health care system before moving full time into litigation specializing in Insurance Bad Faith defense with the firm of Hill, Genson, Even Crandall and Wade.

After 11 years with the Hill Genson firm, Maria was asked by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Orange to serve as its Human Resources Director and then General Counsel where she was responsible for the oversight and management of all of the legal transactions for the Diocese-owned 59 parish churches, 49 elementary schools, 3 high schools, the Diocese Pastoral Center, Cathedral Complex and a planned Senior and Assisted Living Community as well. Maria was responsible for the human resources administration and benefits for the Diocese' 5,000 employees.

During her tenure with the Diocese of Orange, Maria was responsible for the mediation, negotiations and eventual settlement of 95 clergy abuse cases over a 2 year period culminating in the first church settlement of abuse cases in California. Maria led the legal team for the \$57.9 million acquisition, purchase and leaseback of the 39 acre iconic Crystal Cathedral complex and its corporate restructure and transformation to the Christ Catholic Cathedral.

Maria has mediated several litigated cases involving employment law, wrongful termination and discriminatory employment practices, personal injury, health care law, medical malpractice, commercial and residential real estate, breach of contract, and other general business disputes. For the past 10 years, Maria has been an active arbitrator for the OCBA Mandatory Fee Dispute program.

Maria has successfully completed mediation courses at the Strauss Institute including Mediating the Litigated Civil Case and 2 summer institute programs of intensive 4 day training in dispute resolution theories and practices.

**ADMITTED TO THE PRACTICE OF LAW**

All the Courts of the State of California  
United States District Court, Central District  
United States District Court, Southern District  
Ninth District Court of Appeals

**PROFESSIONAL LAW RELATED EXPERIENCE**

Fitzgerald Yap Kreditor, Of Counsel	2016 to Present
The Law Offices of Steven R. Young LLC, Of Counsel	2014 - October 2016
Brady Vorwerck Ryder and Caspino, Partner	2013 - 2014
Roman Catholic Diocese of Orange, General Counsel	1998 - 2013
Hill, Genson, Even, Crandall, and Wade, Senior Associate	1987 - 1998
Westworld Community Healthcare, Inc., VP and Corporate Counsel	1985 - 1987
Law Offices of Maria M. Rullo, Solo Practice	1982 - 1985
Advanced Health Systems, Inc., Division Counsel	1979 - 1982

**EDUCATION**

Juris Doctor, Western State University College of Law  
Bachelor of Science of Laws, Western State University  
Undergraduate — Mount St. Mary's College, Los Angeles  
High School Notre Dame Academy and St. Matthias Catholic Girls High School

**CURRENT ACTIVE PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

California State Bar Association  
Orange County Bar Association  
OCBA Mandatory Fee Arbitration Committee

**PRO BONO**

OCBA Mandatory Fee Dispute Program- Arbitrator  
OC-CRF Moot Court — Attorney Score Keeper  
OC-CRF Peer Court — Attorney Mentor  
Chapman Law School Mentor Program  
American Mock Trial Association, Collegiate Level —Tournament Judge  
PLC- Guardianship Clinic at Central Justice Center  
St. Edward the Confessor Church — Outreach Council

**COMMUNITY SERVICES**

RAD Camp Inc., - Awesome summer experiences for adults and children with development disabilities -Volunteer  
Head Camp Chef  
Second Harvest Food Distribution Center —Volunteer  
Susan G. Komen 3 day and 5k Walks for the Cure — Walker/Fund Raiser

**HOBBIES AND INTERESTS**

Cooking, entertaining, event planning and interior designing. Avid reader. Faithful fan of high school and college football. Loves to walk and swim especially on Kauai. Still trying to golf.