

Abigail Pessen Biographical Information

Abigail Pessen
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- I. Attorney, Mediator and Arbitrator** **Admitted to practice 1973, Second Department**
- II. Professional Organizations:** New York City Bar Association, Member; New York State Bar Association, Member: Labor & Employment Section, Co-Chair ADR Committee; Member: Dispute Resolution Section, Co-Chair, Arbitration Committee; Fellow, College of Commercial Arbitrators.
- III. General Professional Experience:** I have had my own mediation and arbitration firm since 2000. I have twenty years of experience as a litigator with Scoppetta & Seiff (later called Seiff & Kretz) 1980 - 2000, handling a wide variety of complex business and employment, and some family-related disputes. Served as law clerk to Judge Whitman Knapp, Southern District of New York, 1972-74; Assistant Professor of Law, NY Law School, 1977-78.
- IV. Bankruptcy Law Experience and Familiarity:** during my litigation career, I gained some familiarity with bankruptcy law, and litigated a number of adversary proceedings. I have also successfully mediated a number of adversary proceedings, and disputes concerning fraudulent conveyance and other issues often arising in bankruptcy.
- V. Mediation training:** more than 130 hours of basic and advanced mediation training, including training by OCA, the U.S. Court for the Eastern District of NY, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the Center for Mediation in Law.
- VI. Mediation experience:** I have mediated hundreds of complex business, employment, and family disputes, both privately and for the American Arbitration Association, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and various Court panels. I have served as a trainer and faculty member for numerous mediation training programs at various law schools and the Southern District of New York Mediation program. I have chaired and participated in numerous CLE programs and workshops on mediation and arbitration. I authored an annual chapter on developments in ADR law published in *Developments in Business and Corporate Litigation*, an ABA publication (2001, 2002, 2003, and 2004).

- VII. Areas of expertise: business (contracts, insurance, partnership, close corporations, licensing, UCC, business torts) and employment law.**
- VIII. Pertinent Additional Experience: I am a member of the American Arbitration Association's roster of Master Mediators, and its Commercial Panel, Large Complex Case Panel, and Employment Panel. I also serve as an arbitrator for FINRA. EDNY Magistrate Judge Tomlinson appointed me to serve as Settlement Administrator for a large employment class action against Nassau County.**
- IX. Other: Chosen by NY Best Lawyers as "2015 Lawyer of the Year" for mediation. Tier 1 ranking from U.S. News and World Report for both mediation and arbitration in 2014 (one of only four ADR providers in NYC to receive Tier 1 ranking in both areas). Listed in Best Lawyers in the field of Alternative Dispute Resolution in the New York metropolitan area since 2003. Superlawyer for ADR since 2005. AV Rating from Martindale-Hubbell.**
- X. Fee Structure: provided on request. No expenses anticipated.**
- XI. Pro Bono Preference: Brooklyn**