

Christopher Nolland has been a mediator and arbitrator since 1993. He has conducted over 3,000 mediations and numerous arbitrations, primarily in complex business and commercial matters and fiduciary litigation. Nolland's mediation and arbitration practice focuses on large, complex, multifaceted disputes. His mediation and arbitration practice is national in scope. He is a member of the AAA National Panel of Arbitrators and the AAA National Panel of Mediators.

In addition to his Mediation and Arbitration practice, over the past 20 years Christopher Nolland has established a national practice as Settlement/Negotiation Counsel, acting as the principal negotiator for one party to a dispute *in a non-neutral role*. Nolland has been engaged as Settlement Counsel in dozens of matters, primarily involving complex high stakes business and significant fiduciary disputes, including major trust and probate litigation, director and officer litigation, professional liability, intellectual property, and partnership and closely held business litigation, as well as significant insolvency and litigation trustee matters. His Settlement Counsel practice has been [the subject of articles in leading legal and business publications](#).

As an Adjunct Professor of Law at SMU Law School for twenty-five years Mr. Nolland has taught a full semester course on Negotiation to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year law students and LLM candidates.



After law school, Mr. Nolland served as an appellate law clerk and thereafter practiced law in New York City with a major national firm and in New York City and Dallas, Texas as a partner with a well-known national business litigation firm. Mr. Nolland is admitted to practice in Texas and New York and numerous United States Courts of Appeal and United States District Courts, as well as the United States Supreme Court.

Mr. Nolland is a Fellow of the American College of Civil Trial Mediators and a member of the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals (both by invitation only), as well as a member of the Association of Attorney Mediators, and the ADR and Litigation sections of National, State and Local Bar Associations.

Chris Nolland was named by *Chambers* as a leading nationwide mediator each year from 2017-2023 (ranked Nationwide Band 2 in 2021-2023), noting in its 2020 profile that "*Christopher Nolland brings a 'very innovative' approach to mediation...*". In its 2023 profile, Chambers reported comments about Nolland include that "*He is a really brilliant guy that is always thinking about how to take mediation to the next level.*" Mr. Nolland was named by *D Magazine* as one of the Best Lawyers in Dallas in 2003, 2005, 2007, 2008, and 2010 – 2024 (all years the list has been published) and named as an Inaugural member of the *D Magazine Best Lawyers Hall of Fame* (2022). *Texas Monthly/Thompson Reuters* selected him as a Texas Super Lawyer from 2003 – 2024 and in 2007 and 2020 as one of the top 100 Lawyers in Texas. Selected for *The Best Lawyers in America* by BL Rankings LLC (2008 – 2024) and ranked as a Best Lawyer by *U.S. News and World Report* in 2013 - 2023. Mr. Nolland is one of 5 Texas mediator finalists statewide for the 2012 *Go-To Lawyers Guide* published by *Texas Lawyer*. In 2016 Mr. Nolland was selected by *Texas Lawyer* for its Lifetime Achievement Award. *Who's Who Legal* (published by Law Business Research Ltd in London) recognized Mr. Nolland as a Global Leader in Mediation in 2022, 2021 and in prior years.

American Lawyer named Chris Nolland to its 2021 inaugural class of Trailblazers South for his creation and development of a new practice area – acting as Special Settlement Counsel to clients in major litigation. In 2016, Mr. Nolland was named as a National ADR Champion by *The National Law Journal* and was the recipient of the Steve Brutsché Award from the national Association of Attorney Mediators (its highest honor). In 2018, he received the Justice Frank Evans Award from the ADR Section of the State Bar of Texas for excellence in the field of Alternate Dispute Resolution. In 2019 *Texas Lawyer* named Mr. Nolland a Texas Trailblazer for his development of the Special Settlement Counsel concept of bifurcating the litigation and settlement negotiation functions among different outside counsel in disputes of significance.

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### **SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS**

- Adjunct Professor of Law at Southern Methodist University Law School, teaching a course on Legal Negotiation and Settlement for 25 years
- Extensive experience as a neutral mediator (over 2,700 cases) and arbitrator
- Intense experience in all phases of litigation in federal and state courts and before arbitration, administrative, and regulatory tribunals involving a wide range of complex business, commercial, franchise, securities, intellectual property, and bankruptcy matters
- Briefed and argued hundreds of substantive and procedural motions and appellate matters in federal and state courts, including arguments before federal circuit courts of appeal and the judicial panel on multi district litigation
- Active practice as Special Negotiation/Settlement Counsel to law firms and clients in complex litigation for over 20 years
- AAA National Panel of Arbitrators and National Panel of Mediators

### **HONORS AND AWARDS**

2017 – 2023 *Chambers USA* - selected most recently as a leading Nationwide (Band 2) Mediator  
2021 – American Lawyer recognizes Chris Nolland in its Inaugural 2021 class of Southern Trailblazers for the creation and development of the Special Settlement Counsel concept  
2003 – 2024: *D Magazine*/Best Lawyers in Dallas (selected all years the list has been published)  
2003 – 2024: *Texas Monthly/Thompson Reuters Texas Super Lawyer* (selected all years the list has been published, including as one of the Top 100 lawyers in Texas in 2020)  
2008 – 2024: *The Best Lawyers in America*  
2013 – 2023: *U.S. News & World Report* first-tier mediator  
2016 *National Law Journal* ADR Champion  
2016 Association of Attorney Mediators Steve Brutsché Award – its highest honor  
2016 *Texas Lawyer* Lifetime Achievement Award  
2018 State Bar of Texas ADR Section Justice Frank Evans Award - awarded annually for excellence and contributions in alternative dispute resolution  
2019 Named by Texas Lawyer as a Texas Trailblazer for Settlement Counsel practice  
2022 Inaugural Member D Magazine Best Lawyers Hall of Fame

### **BAR ADMISSIONS**

Texas and New York State (all courts); United States Supreme Court; United States Courts of Appeal for the Second, Fourth, and Fifth Circuits; various United States District Courts in New York and Texas.

## **PRIOR LEGAL EXPERIENCE AND AFFILIATIONS**

Partner/Counsel  
Bickel & Brewer  
1717 Main Street  
Dallas, Texas 75201

Associate - Litigation  
Kelley Drye & Warren  
101 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10178

Partner/Counsel  
Kraver & Parker  
885 Third Avenue  
New York, New York 10022

Confidential Law Assistant  
Supreme Court Appellate Division  
Third Department  
Albany, New York

## **EDUCATION**

Union University                      Juris Doctor, cum laude, 1977  
Albany Law School                    Class Rank: 4th of 212  
    Law Review

State University of                    B.A., cum laude, 1974  
New York (Oswego)                    Major: Political Science

## **ACTIVITIES AND HONORS - LAW SCHOOL**

Law Review, Associate Editor  
Justinian Honor Society  
Member of the Tax Moot Court Team  
Advisor to the Tax Moot Court Team  
Cameron-Danaher Award (Civil Procedure and Evidence)  
Jacob L. Rubenstein Prize (Procedure)

## **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

AAA National Panel of Arbitrators and National Panel of Mediators  
Association of Attorney Mediators  
Association for Conflict Resolution  
American College of Civil Trial Mediators  
National/Texas Academy of Distinguished Neutrals  
American, Texas, New York State and Dallas Bar Associations (member of ADR, litigation, and other sections of the foregoing bar associations)

## **OTHER TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE**

Adjunct Professor of Law, SMU Law School - Legal Negotiation and Settlement, 1997- present  
Co-Coach, SMU Law School National Negotiation Team, 1994-2004  
Texas State Bar Advanced Negotiation Seminar 1994, teaching coach  
AAA Advanced Arbitration Training  
AAA Securities Arbitration Training  
Mediation Training: American Academy of Attorney Mediators  
Frequent presenter at negotiation and mediation courses and CLE programs