### **Experience**



Gary N. Stern
ARC

ADR Professional (Mediation, Arbitration, neutral evaluation)

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2025 to Present:

 ARC (Alternative Resolution Centers)

 ADR Professional (Mediation, Arbitration, Neutral

 Evaluation, Discovery Referree)

2019-2024:

 SternLaw: Law Office of Gary N. Stern, Woodland Hills

Civil litigation advocacy, consulting and ADR retentions

2017-2018:

 Carpenter, Zuckerman & Rowley, Beverly Hills

 Plaintiff-only personal injury litigation

2016-2017:

 Gelfand & Gelfand, Beverly Hills

 managing attorney, plaintiff-only personal injury and

 medical malpractice

2000-2015:

Gordon, Edelstein, Krepack, Grant, Felton & Goldstein, Los Angeles

tort litigation, medical malpractice, elder abuse and employment tort cases

1999-2000:

Law Offices of Gary N. Stern, Los Angeles

sole practitioner, civil and tort litigation, plaintiff-only practice; primarily medical malpractice litigation

1986-1999:

Popkoff & Stern, Los Angeles

two-person law firm, partner, civil and tort litigation, estate planning, probate and trust litigation, primarily plaintiff; practice emphasis on medical malpractice and nursing home abuse cases

1981-1986:

Goodman & Hirschberg, Los Angeles

associate attorney, family law, civil and tort litigation, plaintiff only; emphasis on medical malpractice litigation

1979-1981:

Jaffe, Clemens & Fridkis, Beverly Hills

law clerk, associate attorney; Civil Litigation and Family Law

1976-1979:

Congressman Henry A. Waxman; Assemblyman/Senator

Herschel Rosenthal, Los Angeles; Constituent Caseworker and Legislative Aide

### **Education**

**1977-1980:**

Southwestern University School of Law

Top 11%; Vice-Dean, Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity (1979-80); Law Review, 1979-80

**1973-1977:**

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

 Major, Political Science (B.A.) (Dean’s List 1976)

 Vice-Chairman, Rally Committee

 Sportswriter, Daily Bruin

 Sportscaster, KLA Radio

**PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Pepperdine University School of Law, Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, Completion of Six Day Intensive Course: “Mediating the Litigated Case;” July 2019

Judge Pro Tem; Los Angeles Municipal Court (1990-2000)

Judge Pro Tem; Los Angeles Superior Court, Small Claims, Traffic, Unlawful Detainer (1990-2000; 2019 to the Present)

Settlement Officer, Los Angeles Superior Court (1988-2000; 2019 to Present)

Settlement Attorney, Resolve Law (2019 to present)

Arbitrator, Mediator with Superior, Municipal Courts (1988-2000)

Member, Mediation Panel, United States District Court, Central Dist. CA (July 2020-Present)

Judge, Moot Court Program, West Los Angeles School of Law

Judge, Teach Democracy (formerly Constitutional Rights Foundation), Mock Trial Competition

Panelist, "Bridging the Gap, " January 1984

Volunteer Attorney, Bet Tzedek Legal Services (1990-2000)

State Bar of California:

 Committee on Public Affairs, 1983-1986

Conference of Delegates, 1986-2000

State Bar Examiner, State Bar Court, 1988-92

Los Angeles County Bar Association (member since 1981)

Executive Committee, Los Angeles Delegation to the Conference of Delegates

Client Relations Committee

Judiciary Committee

Legislation Committee

Barristers Executive Committee

Barristers Committee on Child Abuse, Co-Chairman

Barristers Committee on Legislation, Chairman

Barristers Committee on Bench Bar Relations

Committee on the Homeless

Litigation Section

Arbitrator and Mediator, LACBA Attorney Client Mediation and Arbitration Services

Member: Southern California Mediation Association

Consumer Attorneys of California (CAOC; Affiliate Member eff Jan 2025)

Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles (CAALA; affiliate member eff Jan 2025)

Included in Southern California "Super Lawyers, " 2009-2010

**COMMITMENT TO MY COMMUNITY**

Jewish Big Brothers Association of Los Angeles County:

Board of Trustees, 1985-2004; 2015-Present

Advisory Council, 2004-2015

Chairman, Volunteer Big Brother Committee

Chairman, Personnel Committee

Member, Legal, Legislative, Camp, and Planning Committees

Chair, Ad Hoc Committee re Big Sisters Program

Volunteer Big Brother, 1975-1986

Award of Merit, Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, 1976 "Salute to Youth in Volunteer Service"

Respiratory Care Board (State of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, Appt. by Senate Rules)

Member of the Board, 1997-2006

Board Vice-President, 2005-2006

Glendale-Crescenta Volunteers Organized in Conserving the Environment: [VOICE]

Member, Board of Directors, 1997-2003

Chair, Legal Committee

Leo Baeck Temple:

 Member, Board of Trustees, 1997-2003

Membership Secretary, 1998-1999

Member, Executive Committee (1999-2001)

Chief Financial Officer (2001-2003)

Member, Coordinating Committee for Education,

Member, Ritual and Religious Services Committee

Member, Communications Committee

Member, Rabbinic Search Committee

Dodgertown West Baseball League

Member, Board of Directors, 2015-2022

Southern California Jewish Sports Hall of Fame

 Member, Board of Directors, May 2021 to Present

Co-Creator, Co-Host, “After the Glory – The Podcast;” September 2020 to December 2022

**PUBLICATIONS**

“How Mediators Should Handle Pro Per Litigants: 3 Essential Strategies”, July 2025, Los Angeles Daily Journal

“The Case That Changed the Road Ahead: a Tire Failure and A Mediator’s Insight, May 2025, Los Angeles Daily Journal

“Mediator’s Perspective on Standard of Care”, January 2025, Los Angeles Daily Journal

“’Loss of Enjoyment of Life’ and the Declaration of Independence: Rethinking CACI 3905A as a Stand Alone General Damage,” The Advocate, Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, January 2022

“My Mediation Top 10 List: Perspectives from an Advocate of 38 Years, Recently Turned Neutral,” The Advocate, Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, August 2020

"Elder Abuse: What to Watch For Regarding Your Loved One, " The Voice, Quarterly Newsletter of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union (UCFW) , Local 770, June 2009;

"Disability Discrimination in a World Without Voc Rehab, " CAAAments (the voice of the California Applicants' Attorneys Association), January 2006, p. 30;

"Elder Abuse Cases Involving the Diabetic Resident: Responding to the Natural Progression' Defense, The Forum, Consumer Attorneys of California, December 2004;

"Balance Consumer Protection, Health Care Worker Rights, " Los Angeles Times, Valley Perspective, April 1, 2001;

“MICRÄ' s Scope,” S/ Ages Column, Los Angeles Daily Journal, "Verdicts & Settlements, " May 12, 2000, pg. 5;

"In the Totality, [Elder Abuse Act Remedies], S /Ages Column, Los Angeles Daily Journal, "Verdicts & Settlements, February 25, 2000;

"State Looks to Lawyers to Reform Nursing Homes, Los Angeles Times (September 19, 1999);

"Nursing Home Residents Have Rights, " Meeting the Challenges Quarterly, published by the Partnership to Preserve Independent Living for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities, Riverside, CA; Winter 1999;

"The Elderly in America: A Priority?" Los Angeles Times (November 30, 1997);

"Elder Abuse Litigation: California Out in Front (Like the Old Days), The Advocate, Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, September 1996;

"Elder Abuse & Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act: Old Law, New Remedies, Los Angeles Trial Lawyers Association, Summer Program Syllabus, August 6, 1993, Page 1;

"Plaintiff's Perspective on the Judicial Arbitration System" Los Angeles Daily Journal, May 6, 1993, Page 7;

Telephonic Screening of Potential Medical Negligence Cases, The Advocate, Los Angeles Trial Lawyers Association, April 1989.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Andrus Center for Gerontology, Annual Mock Trial,

2019-2022

Panelist, Los Angeles County Bar Association Litigation Section, Elder Abuse Litigation, November 28, 2000; December 5, 2000;

Panelist, Los Angeles County Bar Association, "Breakfast at the Bar: Using Interrogatories as a Discovery Tool, November 8, 1996;

Panelist, Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, Annual Las Vegas Convention, Elder Abuse Law (1995-2000);

Panelist, Los Angeles Trial Lawyers Association Summer Program, Elder Abuse Act, August 6, 1993;

Panelist, California Continuing Education of the Bar, Joint and Several Liability, August 11, 1990.

**REFERENCES**

Hon. Dennis M. Perluss (Ret.) Presiding Justice Second Appellate District, Division 7, California Court of Appeals;

Hon. John L. Segal, Associate Justice, Second Appellate District, Division 7, California Court of Appeals;

Steven B. Stevens, Esq., Michels & Lew, Los Angeles, CA

Many mediators throughout So. Cal., including Bruce Clemens and Tom Dempsey

Further references available upon request

**PERSONAL**

Born: May 21, 1955

Admission to CA Bar: December 16, 1980; SBN: 94498

Married nearly 40 years to Sandra L. Stern

Son: Daniel R. Stern, Certified Special Education Teacher

Daughter: Laura DeMarco, Licensed Real Estate Sales Agent

Grandchildren: Caleb and Hannah

**GARY N. STERN LITIGATION/CASE HIGHLIGHTS**

Jury Trials:

1983: Davis v. Haft, Med Mal, LASC, Central Dist. (Def atty: Leon Zallen, now deceased)

1983: Brown v. Billingslea, Dental Mal, LAMC, Central Dist. (Def atty: Shield & Smith)

1986: Dinardo v. City of Compton, jail hanging, LASC, CCW (co-counsel w/Thomas Dempsey)

1990: Jones v. Judd, Premises Liability, San Diego Superior (Def atty: Douglas Walters)

1992: Briggs v. View Park, nursing home abuse, LASC, Central Dist. (Def atty: K. Cook, Bonne ofc)

2000: Henderson v. County of Los Angeles, Med Mal, LASC, CCW (Def atty: Ronald Chavez)

2003: Bibbs v. Saaman, Auto accident, LASC, San Fernando (Def atty: Nai Alamo-Hecht)

2008: Rosenwasser v. Cedars, Med Mal, (co-counsel with Krepack), LASC (Def atty: Ray Moore)

2010: Hollender v. Kim, Med Mal, (co-counsel with Krepack), LASC (Def atty: Raymond Blessey)

2010: Snider v. Amica, first party bad faith, (co-counsel with Gordon), LASC (Def atty: S. Bost)

2016: Alexander v. Sinha, Med Mal, (co-counsel with Gelfand), Riverside SC (Def atty: S. Trexler)

2017: Towey v. Longoria, Med Mal, (co-counsel with Gelfand), Sacramento SC (multiple def attys)

2017: Gibbs v. Weiskopf, Med Mal, (co-counsel with Gelfand), LASC, Alhambra (def atty: D. Weiss)

2018: Levine v. Martinez, Automobile, LASC, Central District (def atty: Maranga & Morgenstern)

Major Settlements (including binding arbitrations):

2024: Confidential, Premises Liability, $2,800,000

2023: Confidential: School Negligence, $1,000,000

2020: Confidential, Nursing Home Abuse: $262,500

2018: Hayward v. Tracy, premises liability: $400,000

2017: Confidential: wrongful death, med mal: $850,000

2016: Confidential: wrongful death, med mal; $1.3M

2016: Corso v. Riverside Community Hospital, Med Mal; $750,000

2015: Riles v. Karimi, et al., Med mal (birth injury); $2M (Def attys: G. Peterson; M. Doubet, etc.)

2015: Chojolan v. Calif. Hosp., med mal (quad of 18-year-old); $7.5M (multiple def attys)

2014: Varnum v. State of California, Premises; Road Design, $1.277M (multiple def attys)

2014: Guerrero v. Hyd Mech, Inc., Product Liability, $850,000 (Def atty: Charles Palmer)

2011: Somesh v. Paradise Gardens, Wrongful Death, premises, $980,000 (Def atty: A. Hollins)

2010: Bui v. Capstone, et al., Product Liability; $1.640M (Def attys: D. Friedenthal, T. Cranert);

2008: Lowe v. SMA Equipment, et al. Premises/products, $5M (multiple def attys)

2003: Lewerenz v. Crawford & Co., Disability discrimination, $175,000 (Def atty: W. Higgins)

1995: Crousore v. City of Moreno Valley; Road design, $150,000 plus accelerated General Plan

1993: Moss v. Kaiser, med mal arbitration, $75,000 (Def atty: Kirk Neiberger)

1990: Legendre v. Charter Hosp; Med Mal, psych hospital, $75,000 (multiple def attys)

1989: Hole v. Kaiser, med mal arbitration, $450,000 (Def atty, now Hon. Michael Solner)

1989: Villareal v. So. Cal. Edison, FMC, Products/Premises, burn injuries, $3M (co-counsel: J. Thielen)

Mediation work since 2019:

 [Estimated total success rate re private cases: 70%]

 Among 27 matters referred by the USDC:

2022: The Rockwell case (one plaintiff and 25 defendants in a complex asbestos exposure case, over three days via Zoom settled out 17 of the 25 defendants)

 2020-2025: approximately 10 ADA cases, Resolved 70%

 2022: Housing Discrimination case

 2022: Urquidi v. Union Pacific, fire damage

2022-2023: multiple vehicle accident cases, U.S. Postal Service as Defendant

2024: Two State Farm Subrogation cases re Property Damage

2024: Two Costco cases removed to federal court; Premises Liability

 Mediation Days for Farmers Insurance, 2022

 Resolved 7 of 10 cases

 Private Retentions, 2019-2024 (all resolved)

 Till case, motor vehicle

 Avenesian case, motor vehicle

 Sanders financial elder abuse case

 Three Security Deposit cases, all resolved

 Ortiz v. Baron, FEHA and Labor Code case

 Millesara First party property insurance bad faith

 Khakachrian motor vehicle case

 Butler v. Arias premises liability case

 Attorney Referral Fee Dispute

 Unlawful Practice of Law Case

 Rios v. Airada, motor vehicle case

2025 Settled Cases Through LASC Resolve Law and MVP; 2-3 on average heard and set through March 2025

 Duran case, wrongful termination

 Carson case, FEHA, Wrongful Termination

2019-2020 Settled Cases at Spring Street Courthouse as a Settlement Officer

 McKenzie case, motor vehicle

 Parks case, parent assault case at youth event

Brause case, bar service of alcohol, motor vehicle accident happened immediately thereafter

Major movie star accused of sexual assault, all day session resulted in confidential settlement

Nichols Case, motor vehicle

 Perryman case, premises liability

 Lara case, motor vehicle

 Markus-Reid case, premises liability

 Hedges case, motor vehicle

[updated September 5, 2025]