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Law Office of Gary N Stern

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MEDIATOR

ARBITRATOR

EXPERIENCE

1976-1979

Congressman Henry A. Waxman; Assemblyman/Senator
Herschel Rosenthal, Los Angeles; Constituent Caseworker and Legislative Aide

1978-1979

Grey Law Legal Assistance Center, Los Angeles (student externship)

1979-1981

Jaffe, Clemens & Fridkis, Beverly Hills
law clerk, associate attorney; Civil Litigation and Family Law

1981-1986

Goodman & Hirschberg, Los Angeles (associate attorney, family law, civil and tort litigation, plaintiff only; emphasis on 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)

1999-2000

Law Offices of Gary N. Stern, Los Angeles (sole practitioner, civil and tort litigation, plaintiff-only practice; primarily medical malpractice litigation)

2000-2015

Gordon, Edelstein, Krepack, Grant, Felton & Goldstein, Los Angeles (workers compensation, tort litigation, primarily an applicant/plaintiff only practice; I practiced in the tort department, primarily medical malpractice, elder abuse and employment tort cases)

2016-2017

Gelfand & Gelfand, Beverly Hills (managing attorney, plaintiff-only personal injury and medical malpractice law)

2017-2018

Carpenter, Zuckerman & Rowley, Beverly Hills (Plaintiff-only personal injury litigation)

January 2019 to Present

STERNLAW: Law Office of Gary N. Stern, Woodland Hills [Advocate, Counselor, Advisor, Mediator, Arbitrator]

EDUCATION

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

1977-1980

Southwestern University School of Law

Top 11%

Vice-Dean, Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity (1979-80)

Law Review, 1979-80

PROFESSIONAL LIFE AWAY FROM THE OFFICE

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 Detailer (1990-2000; 2019 to the Present)

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

Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles (CAALA)

American Association for Justice (AAJ)

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

COMMITMENT TO MY COMMUNITY

Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters Association of Los Angeles

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 CA, Dept. of Consumer Affairs

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 to Present

PUBLICATIONS

"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

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, 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;

Michael Morehead, Esq., Mediator, Judicate West, Los Angeles (and multiple locations);

Jay Cordell Horton, Esq., Mediator, Judicate West, Los Angeles (and multiple locations);

Hon. Joe Hilberman, Esq., Mediator ADR Services, Los Angeles

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

Further references available upon request

PERSONAL

Born:

May 21, 1955

Admission to CA Bar:

December 16, 1980

Bar Number 094498

Married 33 years to Sandy Stern

Son: Daniel R. Stern, Special Education Teacher

Daughter: Laura M. Stern, Corporate Events Coordinator, local boutique hotel

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):

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)

[updated April 21, 2021]