

John Derrick

Mediator & Arbitrator



John Derrick has a background in law and business. A dual national who came to the US from the UK over 30 years ago, he is naturally skilled at helping people from all sorts of backgrounds resolve a wide variety of disputes that previously proved intractable.

John is by character diplomatic and has a calm, civil demeanor. He can see issues from different perspectives. He is empathetic and can establish rapport with a wide range of people. He is both patient and persistent. He listens. But when necessary, he can tell people things they may not want to hear.

John's ADR practice draws in part on his experience over 20 years as an accomplished appellate lawyer. Before entering the legal profession, he co-founded, operated, and eventually sold a specialized information publishing business.

Main ADR practice areas

Business/commercial, real estate/HOAs, personal injury, consumer, other torts.

Conflict resolution experience

John Derrick's journey into mediation began in the appellate system in 2008 when he went on the Court of Appeal mediation panel in Los Angeles, on which he continues to serve. Today, he is a full-time mediator and arbitrator handling cases at all stages of the litigation timeline throughout Southern California and beyond. He frequently writes and lectures on ADR topics.

Education & training

- JD, UC Berkeley School of Law (2002).
- BA, University of Oxford (UK) (1974).
- Pepperdine/Straus Institute-trained in mediation (2018); AAA/ABA-trained in arbitration (2024).

Affiliations

- 2026 Chair, ADR Committee of the Litigation Section of the California Lawyers Association.
- Panel member, American Arbitration Association (Commercial and Consumer National Rosters).
- Panel member, Mediation Center of Los Angeles.
- Mediation panels, Los Angeles Superior Court, US District Court for the Central District of California (Los Angeles).
- Mediation panel, Second District Court of Appeal (Los Angeles).
- Settlement Master and mediation panel member, Santa Barbara Superior Court.
- Co-Chair, Santa Barbara County Bar Association, ADR Section.
- Former Chair, California State Bar's Standing Committee on Appellate Courts.
- Certified Appellate Specialist, State Bar Board of Legal Specialization (2008-2024).
- Former Editor-in-Chief, *California Litigation*.

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