

Biographical Information

Hon. Keith M. Clemens, Ret. Superior Court Commissioner

For the past 13 years, Commissioner Keith Clemens has been a private judge for dispute resolution. He conducts trials and hearings as a temporary judge (judge pro tem), arbitrations, mediations, settlement conferences, and Code of Civil Procedure §§ 638 and 639 reference hearings. Commr. Clemens also serves as a discovery referee, as a case management officer and as a special master/family facilitator.

Commr. Clemens presided over Family Law direct calendar courts in Los Angeles Superior Court Department NV-J (San Fernando) from July 1991 through December 2002, and Department 9 (Central District) from January 2003 to November 1996. During that time he also handled a four month temporary assignment to a criminal court, which included felony jury trials and a criminal law calendar.

Commr. Clemens was an Adjunct Associate Professor of Law at Southwestern University School of Law from Spring 2006 to Summer 2008. In the Fall of 2005, he was an Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of West Los Angeles School of Law. Since 1991, he has been an instructor, panelist or speaker for more than 100 continuing legal education programs.

Commr. Clemens was a Partner at the Center for Enforcement of Family Support in Los Angeles, enforcing child and spousal support orders, from 1985 through 1991. He also worked as in-house counsel for the Atlantic Richfield Company from 1979 to 1984, and prior to that was in private practice from 1973 through 1979, emphasizing business litigation and business transactions.

Commr. Clemens served on several committees for the Los Angeles Superior Court. He participated in the revisions of the Family Law Court Stipulation Forms. Commr. Clemens has authored many Family Law-related articles, including the last 17 annual "Family Law Update" book summarizing all new published California family law cases, other related cases and new and revised California statutes applicable to family law. He prepares the annual Family Law Update books for the by-now-venerable "Three Amigos" Beverly Hills Bar Association Family Law Update program presented every year since 1992 by Commr. Clemens, Judge Robert Schneider and Commr. James Endman. Commr. Clemens also wrote alone or co-authored a series of articles for the Los Angeles County Bar Association Family Law Symposium Book, including "Family Law Support Enforcement Gets Even Tougher in 1992;" "Family Law Support Enforcement Gets Even Tougher in 1995;" "Enforcement of Support Orders Against Self-Employed Obligor;" "Family Law Meets Collection Law," and "Enforcing Child and Spousal Support Orders and Judgments Other Than through Contempt."

Commr. Clemens has been a member of the Board of Directors of Levitt & Quinn Family Law Center, Inc., a Non-Profit Law Firm, since January 1998.

