

Biographical Information

Hon. Joseph E. Johnston, Ret. Judge of the Superior Court

Judge Johnston is widely recognized for his dedication and persistence in the most contentious disputes. In his distinguished 16 years on the bench as a Superior Court Judge in San Bernardino County, he has tried over 250 jury trials and presided over and settled in excess of 2000 cases. He has managed and tried complex cases involving business and commercial disputes, construction defects, (single family and commercial) environmental cases (CEQA), medical malpractice, personal injury, product liability, wrongful termination, a full range of real property disputes, and issues involving wills and trusts. Judge Johnston was in private practice for over 20 years handling litigation matters. Judge Johnston started his mediation career with JAMS in 2002 and has been mediating and trying cases with IVAMS since 2004.

Judge Johnston was the Presiding Judge of San Bernardino County from 1995-1997 and was the assistant Presiding Judge in 1993 to 1995. Judge Johnston was the Supervising Judge Civil for 12 years handling a daily calendar of law, motion and trials. He was on the Appellant Panel, Superior Court, County of San Bernardino, 1988-1990.

Judge Johnston received the Judicial Award for Civility, American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) in 2001, and was also awarded the Kaufman-Campbell Award as Distinguished Jurist for the year 2000-2001.

Judge Johnston's education includes a B.A. Degree in Economics from the University of Washington, Seattle Washington 1960, and achieved his J.D. from Southwestern University School of Law in 1966. Judge Johnston is a graduate of the Star Program, (Mediation) Pepperdine University. In 1968-1970, Judge Johnston was a Deputy District Attorney for the San Bernardino County office.

