



*"Mediation and arbitration are undeniably the best way to resolve disputes. I devote all my energy using my 40 years of experience to resolve every case I handle."*

**Hon. Steven J. Stone (Ret.)** is known for creative settlements on resolving complex matters. He has extensive experience in the resolution of complex multi-party disputes in all areas of civil litigation. Justice Stone has handled all types of civil disputes and litigation by way of trial, review and alternative resolution.

#### **ADR Experience and Qualifications**

- Significant expertise in construction defect, inverse condemnation, professional liability, employment (wrongful termination and sexual harassment), business, insurance, product liability matters, and personal injury
- Also available as a consultant in trial strategy and appellate review
- Emphasized settlement conferences, whether requested by the parties or on his own motion, and used his considerable expertise in settlement techniques whenever possible at the appellate level
- Successfully mediated many serious and complex high stakes cases in the area of employment, business, insurance, HMO and high tech litigation
- A lecturer in civil law and procedure for the CEB and Rutter Group, he has taught all aspects of litigation and has spoken to legal associations and business and civic groups about the judicial process and settlement techniques

#### **Representative Matters**

- Multi-million dollar patient claim against HMO
- Toxic tort claims involving land fill operation brought by nearby residents
- High-tech business and commercial dispute involving contract and intellectual property claims
- Numerous high stakes insurance bad faith claims
- Multi-million dollar motor vehicle product liability claims involving catastrophic injuries and death
- Resolved several multi-million dollar real estate disputes
- Handled complex multi-party multi-million dollar trust and will dispute

#### **Honors, Memberships, and Professional Activities**

- Selected as One of California's Most Sought-After Neutrals, *Daily Journal Extra*, 2002
- Trial Judge of the Year Award, Ventura County Trial Lawyers Association, 1980 and 1982
- Roger J. Traynor Appellate Justice of the Year Award by the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, 1998
- Faculty of the Council on Judicial Education and Research and the California Judges Association teaching and training judges
- State Bar Board of Governors Special Task Force on Discovery

#### **Background and Education**

- Presiding Justice, California District Court of Appeal, 1982-1999
- Judge, Ventura County Superior Court, 1976-1982 (Supervising Judge, Law and Motion, 1977-1980)
- Private practice, Principal, Beach, Stone, Smith, Drescher & Romney, Santa Paula, CA, 1962-1976
- J.D., University of California, Hastings College of Law, 1961; Associate Editor, *Hastings Law Journal*
- A.B., Medical Sciences, University of California, Berkeley, 1958

#### **References Available Upon Request**