

Craig Beles, JD, LLM, MCI Arb

Experienced Independent Commercial Arbitrator & Mediator.

Fulbright Specialist in International ADR

CBeles@Belesgroup.com

Summary

Advocate, arbitrator, mediator, law professor and legal consultant for 40 years. It has been my honor to have arbitrated, mediated or advocated in nearly 300 complex disputes involving international contracts, intellectual property, licensing, technology, antitrust, telecommunications, construction, transportation, securities, personal injury, insurance, employment and entertainment. Additionally, I have presided in over 60 hearings as a Washington State Administrative Law Judge resolving employment disputes.

Since 2006, I have taught “Transnational Litigation & Arbitration” and “Comparative European International Arbitration” as an Adjunct Professor of Law in Seattle, Washington and as a Fulbright Scholar in Brno and Prague, Czech Republic. In April of 2013, I was awarded a 5-year appointment to the Fulbright Specialist Roster with a specialty in “Peace & Conflict, International Commercial Dispute Resolution.” In October of 2014, selected for a Fulbright Specialist grant in Peace & Conflict to assist the Republic of Mauritius in developing a culture of ADR.

Member of the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals and the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators of London, England. I serve on the roster of arbitrators for several ADR agencies including the AAA, ICDR, CPR, WIPO, ICC, and FINRA. I also serve as a Washington State Bar Association disciplinary hearing officer, a King County Superior Court arbitrator and U. S. District Court mediator & arbitrator.

- Global Award Winner in International Trade, London Corporate LiveWire, 2015.
 - Seattle Top ADR and Mediation Lawyer, Seattle Metro Magazine, 2010.
 - Top Ten Washington Lawyers in the field of “Contracts,” CEO Magazine, 2008.
 - Rated “AV-Preeminent” by Martindale-Hubbell every year since 1990.
 - Rated “10.0 Superb” by Avvo.com every year since 2007.
 - Chair-Elect of the WSBA ADR Section.
 - Past Chairperson of the Washington State Board of Bar Examiners.
 - Past Vice-President of the DoVE Project (Ending Domestic Violence).
 - Past Chairperson of the Vashon-Maury Island Community Council, Vashon Allied Arts, King County Rural Governance Committee, and Executive Board Member of the Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust, and Northwest Folklife Association.
 - The King County Bar Association and all King County minority bars rated me Exceptionally Well Qualified to sit on the King County Superior Court Bench.
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Experience

Independent Arbitrator & Mediator at Craig C. Beles, Arbitrator & Mediator

1990 - Present (25 years)

Experienced commercial arbitrator, mediator and advocate. International and commercial contracts, intellectual property, licensing, technology, antitrust, telecommunications, securities, construction, personal injury, products liability, employment, health care and entertainment.

Fulbright Scholar & Visiting Professor of Law at Masaryk University

January 2010 - June 2010 (6 months)

Lectured in the Czech Republic and throughout Central Europe on Subjects of Private Commercial International Dispute Resolution and Comparative Tort Law.

Adjunct Professor at Seattle University School of Law

2006 - 2009 (3 years)

Taught International Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution.

Of Counsel at Kargianis, Austin & Erickson

October 1987 - January 1990 (2 years 4 months)

Practiced International Commercial Transactions, Aircraft Products Liability & Personal Injury Law.

Law Professor at Gonzaga University School of Law

June 1979 - August 1987 (8 years 3 months)

Full-time Law Professor teaching: Torts, Products Liability, Constitutional Law and Forensic Evidence.

Assistant Attorney General at Washington State Attorney Generals Office

January 1977 - June 1979 (2 years 6 months)

Education, Consumer Protection and Antitrust Divisions. I represented many Washington State institutions of higher learning and enforced state consumer protection and antitrust laws.

Judicial Law Clerk at Washington State Court of Appeals, Div. II

June 1975 - January 1977 (1 year 8 months)

Prepared pre-hearing memoranda and draft published opinions for Chief Judge, Harold Petrie.

Tow Truck Driver & Apprentice Auto Mechanic at Pearson Oldsmobile

May 1971 - September 1972 (1 year 5 months)

Responsible for responding to California Highway Patrol emergency calls and dealer repossessions. Brake jobs, tune-ups and engine rebuilds. Sunnyvale, California.

Security guard at Pinkerton Government Services

May 1970 - September 1971 (1 year 5 months)

Responsible for guarding the main gate and Pan American 747 Clipper #1. San Francisco International Airport.

Organizations

Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

Member

January 2000 to Present

The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators is the world's leading professional body for promoting the settlement of disputes by arbitration, mediation and other alternative dispute resolution (ADR) methods. Founded in 1915, CI Arb was granted a Royal Charter in 1979. Today it is the only membership body that covers the entire range of alternative dispute resolution methods on a global basis and has approximately 12,500 members.

American Arbitration Association - AAA

Arbitrator & Mediator

January 1987 to Present

The American Arbitration Association was founded in 1926, following enactment of the Federal Arbitration Act, with the specific goal of helping to implement arbitration as an out-of-court solution to resolving disputes. The AAA has long held its mediators and arbitrators to strict codes of ethics and model standards of conduct to ensure fairness and impartiality in conflict management.

International Centre for Dispute Resolution - ICDR

Commercial Arbitrator

January 1987 to Present

The International Centre for Dispute Resolution (ICDR) is the world's leading provider of international dispute resolution services. Among the available approaches to conflict management and dispute resolution, the ICDR offers a suite of services to assist parties in minimizing the impact of disputes by resolving them earlier. The services available through the ICDR consist of mediation, early neutral evaluation, fact-finding, dispute review board, and adjudication.

International Institute for Conflict Prevention & Resolution - CPR

Arbitrator & Mediator

January 2007 to Present

CPR is the leading independent resource helping global business and their lawyers resolve complex commercial disputes more cost effectively and efficiently. CPR's membership comprises an elite group of ADR trailblazers, including executives and legal counsel from the world's most successful companies and global law firms, government officials, retired judges, highly-experienced neutrals, and leading academics. CPR accomplishes its mission by harnessing the expertise of these leading legal minds to change the way the world resolves conflict for generations to come.

World Intellectual Property Organization - WIPO

Arbitrator

January 2004 to Present

Based in Geneva, Switzerland, with a further office in Singapore, the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center was established in 1994 to offer Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) options, in particular arbitration and mediation, for the resolution of international commercial disputes between private parties. Developed by leading experts in cross-border dispute settlement, the procedures offered by the Center are widely recognized as particularly appropriate for technology, entertainment and other disputes involving intellectual property.

Financial Industry Regulatory Authority - FINRA

Arbitrator

January 2000 to Present

The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) is the largest independent regulator for all securities firms doing business in the United States. FINRA's mission is to protect America's investors by making sure the securities industry operates fairly and honestly. FINRA operates the largest dispute resolution forum in the securities industry to assist in the resolution of monetary and business disputes between and among investors, brokerage firms and individual brokers.

International Chamber of Commerce - ICC

Arbitrator

January 2004 to Present

Established in 1923 as ICC's arbitration body, the International Court of Arbitration pioneered international commercial arbitration as it is known today, initiating and leading the movement that culminated in the adoption of the New York Convention, the most important multilateral treaty on international arbitration. The Court has also developed resolution mechanisms specifically conceived for business disputes in an international context.

Resolute Systems, LLC

Member

August 2014 to Present

Resolute Systems, LLC provides mediation, arbitration, ADR training, and consulting services to its clients throughout the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico. Established in 1988. Resolute programs are designed to help its clients save time, money and resources through the fair and expedient resolution of civil disputes.

The International Association Of Boalt Alumni - IABA

Member

June 1987 to Present

The International Association of Boalt Alumni (IABA) is dedicated to bringing Berkeley law alumni from the international community together. IABA is also dedicated to facilitating and maintaining contacts between overseas alumni and the Law School and its Faculty. IABA was founded as a private association in Switzerland by European LLM alumni in the 1960s and is domiciled in that country.

Washington State Bar Association

Chair, Board of Bar Examiners

October 2010 to October 2013.

Washington State Bar Association

Disciplinary Hearing Officer

January 2005 to Present.

Washington State Bar Association

Chair-Elect and Executive Board of Directors, ADR Section

October 2012 to Present.

Washington State Bar Association

Member, International Law Section

January 2011 to Present.

American Bar Association - ABA

ADR Section Member

December 2012 to Present

The American Bar Association is the world's largest voluntary professional organization, with nearly 400,000 members and more than 3,500 entities. It is committed to doing what only a national association of attorneys can do: serving our members, improving the legal profession, eliminating bias and enhancing diversity, and advancing the rule of law throughout the United States and around the world.

The DoVE Project

Board of Directors

October 2012 to January 2015

The mission of the DoVE Project is to "Provide compassionate advocacy to survivors of domestic violence living on Vashon Island through support and direct services. Build a community in which abuse is eliminated and personal empowerment is promoted through prevention, education and training."

Northwest Folklife

Vice President and Director

1998 to 2004

Since 1972, NWFL has promoted the cultural diversity of Northwest communities.

Vashon Allied Arts

President and Director

1998 to 2004

Vashon Allied Arts is the oldest community arts center in the State of Washington.

Vashon-Maury Island Community Council

President and Director

1994 to 2000.

Vashon Maury Island Land Trust

Executive Board Member

1992 to 1996.

King County Rural Area Governance Strategies Committee

Chair

1991 to 1993.

Courses**LLM with High Honors, International Practice**

University of California, Berkeley - School of Law

International Commercial Law

International Entertainment Law

International Dispute Resolution

International Human Rights

English Legal History

Securities Regulation

Honors and Awards

Member, Fulbright Specialist Roster

U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
April 2013.

Awarded appointment to Fulbright Specialist Roster with specialty in "International Commercial Arbitration & Mediation," April 2013 to 2018. In October of 2014, selected for a Fulbright Specialist grant in Peace & Conflict to assist the Republic of Mauritius in developing a culture of ADR.

Fulbright Scholar Award

U.S. State Department
January 2010

Taught "Transnational Litigation & Arbitration," and "Comparative European Arbitration Law" in the Czech Republic.

"AV Preeminent" since 1990

Martindale-Hubbell,
2012.

Rating of "10.0 Superb"

Avvo
2012.

"Seattle Top ADR and Mediation Lawyer"

Seattle Metro Magazine
2010.

"Top Ten Lawyers in Washington State," in the area of "Contracts/Agreements,"

CEO Magazine
2008.

Judicial Evaluations

Rated "Exceptionally Well-Qualified" for King County Superior Court Bench by KC Bar Association, Joint Asian Judicial Evaluations Committee, KC Washington Women Lawyers, and Latina/o Bar Association of Washington.

Publications & Speaking Engagements

- March 2015, Avoiding Litigation-Style Discovery in Arbitration, WSBA ADR Section Panel Presentation.
- In 2009-10, named a Fulbright Scholar teaching International Litigation & Arbitration in Brno & Prague, CZ.
- April 2010, Speaker, The Pros and Cons of Differing Procedures in U.S. and European Arbitrations, Charles University Czech Society of International Law, Prague, CZ.
- February 2010, Comparative Best International Arbitration Practices, Mid-year Fulbright Conference, Velke Bilovice, CZ
- October 2007, Washington's Uniform Arbitration Act - Ask the Experts, Pierce County Bar Association.

- 1996-99, Guest Lecturer, International and High Technology Arbitration, University of Washington Executive MBA Program, Fall and Spring Quarters.
- Truth and the Use of History to Interpret Our State Constitution, DENOVO, vol. 2, no. 7, March 1989.
- Parody as Fair Use, WASHINGTON VOLUNTEER LAWYERS FOR THE ARTS, March, 1988.
- May 1982, Speaker, Medical-Legal Concerns of Emergency Medical Personnel sponsored by Sacred Heart Hospital, Spokane, WA.
- May 1982, Speaker, Criteria For Determining Whether a Question of Constitutional Magnitude May be Raised for the First Time on Appeal, Washington State Appellate Court Conference.
- June 1981, Graduation Address, Washington State Police Academy.
- May, 1981, Speaker, The Future of the Washington Consumer Protection Act, Washington State Judicial Conference.
- 1980-83, Torts and Consumer Protection, BARBRI BAR REVIEW, Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich.
- The Washington Consumer Protection Act vs. The Learned Professional, GONZAGA LAW REVIEW, vol. 10, p. 435, 1975.

Skills & Expertise

Arbitration

Mediation

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Dispute Resolution

International Arbitration

International Law

Commercial Litigation

Corporate Law

Employment Law

Legal Research

Torts

Product Liability

Intellectual Property

Litigation

Personal Injury

Administrative Law

Dispute

Hearings

Competition Law

Constitutional Law

Legal Writing

Civil Litigation

Consumer Law

Appeals

Courts

Family Law

Criminal Law

Class Actions

Trials

Legal Assistance

Legal Issues

Civil Rights
Trade Secrets
Trial Practice
Employment

Education

University of California, Berkeley - School of Law

LLM with High Honors, International Practice, 1986 – 1988.

Gonzaga University School of Law

Doctor of Law (JD), 1972 - 1975

Grade: Magna Cum Laude.

University of California, Santa Cruz

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), Psychology, 1968 – 1971.

ADR Training

- ABA, Effective Advocacy & Management in Arbitration, 2015.
- ABA, Ethical Obligations of Arbitrators and Advocates, 2015.
- ABA, What's Working and What's Not Working with Mediators, 2015.
- ABA, Managing Dispute Resolution in Developing Countries, 2015.
- ABA, Around the Asia ADR World, 2015.
- ABA, Innovation and Technology Cases, 2015.
- ABA, Alternative Career Paths for Young ADR Professionals, 2015.
- ABA, The Joint Session is Disappearing – What's Your Plan B, 2015.
- AAA It's Not Just "Litigation Lite"-Making Rulings on Evidentiary Objections, 2015.
- ABA Webinar, Before the Session Starts, How to prepare for Mediation, 2015.
- AAA Webinar, Arbitration in IP/Technology Disputes, 2013.
- AAA Webinar, How to Become a More Innovative Neutral or Advocate: Applying Cutting Edge Innovation Management Techniques to Your ADR Practice, 2012.
- Sixth Annual Leading Arbitrators' Symposium on the Conduct of International Arbitration, 2010.
- AAA Webinar, Current Issues in Employment Arbitration: The Arbitration Fairness Act of 2009 Legislation and Recent Court Decisions, 2009.
- State Bar of California, Debates on International Arbitration: Asia-Pacific, 2007.
- AAA Chairing an Arbitration Panel: Managing Procedures, Process & Dynamics (ACE005), 2006.
- AAA Arbitrator Ethics and Disclosure (ACE003), 2005.
- International Arbitration Advocacy, 2005; International Arbitration, 2005.
- University of Washington Law School Professional Mediation Skills Training Program, 2005.
- AAA Arbitration Awards: Safeguarding, Deciding & Writing Awards (ACE001), 2004.
- NASD Chairperson Training, 2004.
- NASD Dispute Resolution Arbitrator Training, 2003.
- WIPO Workshop for Arbitrators, 2003.

- WIPO Workshop on Domain Name Dispute Resolution, 2003.
 - AAA Commercial Arbitrator II Training: Advanced Case Management Issues, 2002.
 - AAA Arbitrator Update 2001.
 - AAA Commercial Arbitrator Training, 1999.
 - Attended AAA Neutrals' Retreat, 1998.
 - AAA Advocacy in Mediation Seminar, 1997.
 - AAA/ICC/WIPO, Silicon Valley 2000 ADR, 1997.
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Interests

Automobile collecting and restoration, woodworking, carpentry, camping, horseback riding, world travel, singing and officiating at weddings.

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