

Eric Galton

Lakeside Mediation Center

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Eric Galton is considered by many to be a pioneer and defining force in the field of Alternative Dispute Resolution. Since 1989 he has mediated over forty four hundred cases, employing a variety of mediation styles, and consistently maintains a 91% settlement rate. Mr. Galton is highly versatile; he mediates disputes ranging from a half day to two weeks in length, in cities all over Texas and elsewhere in the country, involving anywhere from two to 125 parties from a broad spectrum of ethnic, socioeconomic, political, and business backgrounds. He mediates disputes in over 17 areas of law. In addition to his wealth of practical experience, Eric Galton inspires and motivates participants through his uncompromising ethics, incisiveness, compassion, and genuine love of the mediation process. Eric was listed as a Texas Super Lawyer in 2006 and 2007 by Texas Monthly Magazine and was one of five mediators listed in the Texas Lawyer Go-to-Guide in 2007. Eric is both a fellow and Governor of the International Academy of Mediators.

Education

Earned an Undergraduate degree from Duke University in 1973, Magna Cum Laude With Distinction in History.

Earned a Juris Doctorate from the University of Texas School of Law in 1976, and was the recipient of the Perry L. Jones Memorial Award.

Licenses and Certifications

Licensed to practice law by the State Bar of Texas in November 1976.

Certified to practice law in the United States District Court, Western District of Texas in June 1988.

Training certificate from the Academy of Attorney Mediators in 1989.

Training certificate from the A.A. White Institute in 1990.

Training certificate from the Advanced Mediation Training Seminar of the State Bar of Texas, 1994.

Work History

Eric Galton practiced law from 1976-1985 with Hancock, Piedfort, Galton & McGill. From 1985-1997, Eric Galton was a shareholder at Wright & Greenhill. Eric became a partner with the firm of Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody in 1997 until leaving the firm to establish **Galton, Cunningham & Bourgeois, P.L.L.C.**

Prior to becoming a full time mediator, Eric Galton was a litigator in the areas of personal injury, commercial, and consumer litigation. He represented both plaintiffs and defendants and handled in excess of 80 trials before the court and more than 40 jury trials.

Areas of Mediation Experience

Mr. Galton has mediated disputes in all of the following areas: medical negligence, construction disputes, intellectual property disputes, legal malpractice, employment disputes, personal injury, environmental disputes, products liability, consumer disputes, Deceptive Trade Practice Act disputes, labor disputes, race/sex/age discrimination, Americans with Disabilities Act disputes, family law, suits involving government entities, international commercial disputes, and oil & gas disputes.

Mediation Locations

Eric Galton mediates throughout Texas and elsewhere in the United States. The following is a partial list of cities where Eric has mediated disputes: Austin, Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, Fort Worth, El Paso, Waco, Lubbock, Amarillo, Abilene, Galveston, Corpus Christi, Harlingen, Brownsville, Temple, McAllen, Edinburg, Weslaco, Laredo, Beaumont, Las Vegas, and Chicago, San Francisco, Minneapolis, Indianapolis, Los Angeles, Cleveland, Washington DC, New Orleans, Oklahoma City, Seattle, and Denver.

International Experience

Mr. Galton has experience conducting mediations of international business disputes which have involved representatives from the United States, Mexico, Canada, Italy, South Korea, Switzerland, Germany, Japan, Great Britain, Denmark and France.

Alternative Dispute Resolution Group Memberships

State Bar of Texas ADR Section

Travis County Bar ADR Section

International Academy of Mediators, Board of Governors

ABA Section on Dispute Resolution

Society of Professionals in Dispute Resolution

Texas Association of Mediators (Director, 1997-1999)

President and Founder, Austin Mediators' Society

Teaching and Training

Mr. Galton has extensive experience teaching mediation and alternative dispute resolution. Eric has trained or lectured to mediators for the Academy of Attorney Mediators, the A. A. White Institute, the State Bar of Texas, The Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University, and the American Bar Association. Eric has trained over 1500 mediators in both basic and advanced trainings. He has taught mediation as an adjunct professor at the University of Texas School of Law from 1996 to 2003, and was a peer mediator instructor for the Austin Independent School District at Mendez Middle School and Lanier High School from 1992-1996. Eric is currently an adjunct faculty member at Pepperdine School of Law and Lipscomb University. In addition, Eric Galton served as a lecturer for the following Continuing Legal Education courses:

For the State Bar of Texas

Advanced Civil Trial

Advanced ADR

Advanced Personal Injury

Advanced Employment Law

Suing and Defending Government Entities

Advanced Family Law

Consumer Law

Advanced Real Estate Law

Advanced Oil and Gas Law

Mediation Advocacy, Mediation, and Arbitration Webcasts

For the University of Texas School of Law

Resolving Commercial Disputes Without Trial

Products Liability

For the South Texas College of Law

Advanced Personal Injury

Family Law

For the Baylor College of Law

ADR Course

For Capital Law School

ADR Medical Malpractice Symposium

For the American Bar Association

Advanced ADR Symposia, 1996-present

Course Director for State Bar of Texas Advanced ADR Course, 1994

Publications and Articles

Mr. Galton has published an article for each of the CLE courses listed above. Eric Galton has authored three books; *Mediation: A Texas Practice Guide*(1993), and *Representing Clients in Mediation* (1994), which are considered definitive reference books on mediation for the legal profession, and are currently required reading in law schools throughout the United States. *Mediation: A Texas Practice*

Guide garnered the 1994 CPR Annual Book Award, and has been translated into French and Italian for distribution in Europe and will be coauthored with Avi Schneelbalg, a Belgian attorney and mediator. Italian, French, and Canadian editions were published since 2005. Eric's also co-edited the ABA's *ADRPersonalities and Practice Guide (1998)*, a collaboration with colleague Jim Alfini. Eric's most recent book is *Ripples from Peace Lake: Essays for Mediators and Peacemakers (Trafford 2004)*. Other Articles include:

Mediation Programs for Collegiate Sports Teams

Problem Areas in Alternative Dispute Resolution: A Practitioner's List of Dos and Do Nots (with Professor Kim Kovach)

Through a Crystal Ball Darkly - The Untimely Death of Mediation

Things That Lawyers Do Best and Worst in Mediation(transcript excerpt from ABA Symposium)

A More Facilitative Mediation Approach in Governmental Entity Cases

Fitting the Food to the Fuss: A Dietary Guide for Dispute Resolution

The Mediator Parent Trap

Mediators and Stress: Caring for the Caretakers

The Most Personal of Injuries

Keeping the Peace: The Mendez Peer Mediators

The Ultimate Question: Why Mediate?

The Use of Experts at Mediation

The Development of the AISD Peer Mediation Program

Alternative Dispute Resolution Part of Civil Justice Revolution

The Preventable Death of Mediation

Awards and Achievements

1978-1979

State Bar of Texas Presidential Citation

1980-1984

State Bar of Texas Presidential Citation for Citizens' Legal Education Committee work

1981

State Bar of Texas Presidential Citation

1982

State Bar of Texas Presidential Citation

1983

State Bar of Texas Presidential Citation

Austin Young Lawyers Association Outstanding Young Lawyer

1983-1984

Texas Young Lawyers Association Presidential Award

1984

State Bar of Texas Special Award for Outstanding Service to the Public

1987

State Bar of Texas Service Award

Austin Young Lawyers Association Special Recognition for maintaining Austin Lawyers for Hunger Relief

Capital Area Food Bank Certificate of Appreciation for Austin Lawyers for Hunger Relief

1987-1988

Texas Young Lawyers Association President's Award

1988

Caritas Outstanding Service Award

1991

Texas Bar Foundation Life Fellow

1992

State Bar of Texas Presidential Citation (w/ Broadus Spivey)

Austin Adopt-A-School A+ Adopter of the Year Special Project Award

1994

CPR Annual Book Award

2006

Texas Super Lawyer

2007

Texas Super Lawyer

Texas Go to lawyer

Volunteer and Community Service

Co-Founder and Co-Chair, Austin Lawyers for Hunger Relief

Six Years service for the Capital Area Food Bank

Caritas

United Action for the Elderly

Initiated the Peer Mediation Project at Mendez Middle School and Lanier High School and taught peer mediation from 1992-1996

Co-Chaired the inaugural Travis County Bar Settlement Week 1989 and again in 1992

Vice-Chair, United Methodist Church Just Peace Mediation Program.

Personal

Eric is married to Professor Kimberlee Kovach, who lectures at South Texas College of Law. She is a past Chair of the State Bar of Texas ADR Section and Immediate Past Chair of the ABA Section on Dispute Resolution. She authored the West Publishing book *Mediation: Principles and Practice*, and has trained in excess of five thousand mediators. Mr. Galton is the proud father of five children: three sons, Justin, Seth, and Noah, and twin daughters, Katherine and Mikaela. An avid basketball and football fan, Eric will talk to anyone about his favorite teams, the Duke University Blue Devils and the Texas Longhorns. Eric also enjoys writing screenplays, none of which, to his chagrin, have yet made it to the silver screen.