



Hon. Joseph N. Casciato, (Ret.) Illinois

Hon. Joseph N. Casciato, (Ret.) is a senior mediator and arbitrator at ADR Systems. His trademark is his ability to guide even the most recalcitrant parties to settlement, settling more than 91% of his mediations. He is well known for his thorough case preparation, positive attitude and pleasant personality.

Types of Cases Resolved

- Bad Faith
- Business Dissolution
- Class Action
- Construction
- Construction Accidents
- Contract
- Employment
- Federal Employers Liability Act (FELA)
- Fiduciary Duty
- Franchise
- Insurance Coverage
- Legal Malpractice
- Medical Malpractice
- Nursing Home
- Partnership Dispute
- Personal Injury
- Product Liability
- Professional Malpractice
- Property Damage
- Re-Insurance
- Retaliatory Discharge
- Sexual Abuse
- Wrongful Death
- Wrongful Termination

ADR Experience and Qualifications

- Since joining ADR Systems in 2004, Judge Casciato has served as a full time mediator, arbitrator, discovery master and independent neutral
- 22-year judicial career including Circuit Court of Cook County Law Division, Law Jury and Motion Call D
- 10-year legal career including Of Counsel at Rusin Maciorowski & Friedman, Ltd. and Assistant Corporate Counsel, City of Chicago; Associate, William J. Harte, Ltd.
- Approved mediator, Circuit Court of Cook County

Representative Cases

- Class Action: mediated more than 1,000 cases involving a grocer-branded tea
- Class Action and Insurance Coverage: involving E-Coli and complicated insurance coverage issues; settled more than \$4,500 claims
- Fiduciary Duty, Franchise and Restrictive Covenants: dispute between large Chicago pizza chain and franchisee; resolved in tri-panel arbitration
- Construction Defect: multi-party case involving claims of faulty design in construction of bridge
- Contract and Franchise: multi-state restaurant chain break-up and reorganization; settled disputes with all franchisees
- Insurance Coverage and Construction Defect: settlement of a large, multi-party defect case involving many insurance coverage issues
- Product Liability: mediated lead paint case
- Product Liability: complicated case involving several product liability issues and the federal preemption doctrine; case ultimately decided in the US Supreme Court
- Medical Malpractice: case involving the Petrillo Doctrine
- Toxic Tort: mediated numerous cases involving lead paint

Professional Activities and Awards

- Former Adjunct Professor of Law, DePaul University College of Law
- Former Chair, Illinois Supreme Court Discovery Committee to review and draft the Supreme Court rules in civil litigation
- Appreciation Award, CBA Young Lawyers Association
- Man of the Year Award, Fraternal Order of Police
- Leading Lawyers, Top 10 ADR, Personal Injury Neutral
- Board Member, Illinois Racing Board, appointed by the Governor
- Member, Chicago Bar Association (CBA)
- Member, Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA)
- Member, Justinian Law Society
- Member, Illinois Judges Association
- Former Contributor, Cabrini Green Legal Clinic
- Legal Consultant and Advisor, National Hockey League Players Association

Presentations and Publications

- Presenter, "Complex Litigation and Civil Procedure," CBA and ISBA
- Presenter, "Motion Practice," CBA, Young Lawyers Section
- Presenter, various presentations on behalf of the ISBA
- Presenter, "Summary Judgments," Illinois Supreme Court Judicial Conference

- Presenter, various presentations on behalf of the Law Division of the Cook County Circuit Court

- Presenter, numerous Continuing Legal Education (CLE) programs for ADR Systems on various topics

Education

- JD, DePaul University College of Law
 - Bancroft-Whitney Award for excellence in commercial law
 - Dean's List
- BA, Loyola University Chicago

Admissions

- Illinois State Bar
- US District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- US Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- US Supreme Court