

LS LANA SIMS MEDIATION



Lana H. Sims, Jr.

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"I have enjoyed the trust that clients have given me through the years, and as a mediator, I am very pleased with the assistance I can provide to other attorneys and their clients in bringing resolution to contested matters."



Lana H. Sims, Jr. joined Adams and Reese in 2013 as a Partner following the firm's expansion into Columbia. In 2020 he began a solo mediation practice known as Lana Sims Mediation LLC.

Practicing law since 1982, Lana is a certified mediator recognized by the Supreme Court of South Carolina, and has experience in state and federal litigation, workers' compensation, long shore and harbor worker matters. He has experience in workers' compensation cases in circuit court or federal court actions, and cross-over claims like workers' compensation claims with third party liability liens, assisting litigants with the resolution of a myriad of disputes, and his depth of experience is a valuable asset both to clients and to the litigants he assists in mediation throughout South Carolina.

Lana is also conversationally fluent in Spanish, born and raised in Panama, helpful to civil litigation mediations that may involve Hispanics.

Lana is recognized by his peers among Best Lawyers in Workers' Compensation Law.

Much of Lana's career has involved representing employers, self-insured funds, and insurance companies throughout the state. His experience includes representation of clients before the South Carolina Workers' Compensation Commission and defending clients in matters involving occupational disease and exposure to hazardous materials.

During 35 years of active trial practice, Lana's representative matters included:

- Asbestosis/silica exposure claim involving 7 party defendants
- Contested severe closed head injury claim with third party liens, Social Security and Medicare issues
- Premises liability claim under the South Carolina Tort Claims Act
- Land valuation dispute involving multiple parties
- Nine-year pending claim with both Workers Compensation and Longshore & Harbor Worker Act defendants

Lana's case verdicts include:

- *Robbins v. Walgreens*, 652 S.E.2d 90 (S.C. Ct. App. 2007)
- *Stephenson v. Rice Services, Inc.*, 473 S.E.2d 699 (S.C. 1996)
- *Fox v. Newberry County Memorial Hospital*, 461 S.E.2d 392 (S.C.1995)

RELATED INFORMATION

- Main Bio
- Press Releases
- Seminars

PRACTICE AREAS

- Alternative Dispute Resolution

INDUSTRIES

- Workers Compensation
- Insurance
- Personal Injury

EDUCATION

- University of South Carolina School of Law, J.D., 1982
- Davidson College, B.A., 1979

BAR ADMISSIONS

- South Carolina

COURT ADMISSIONS

- United States Supreme Court
- United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit South Carolina
- United States District Court, District of South Carolina

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

- Spanish

PROFESSIONAL

MEMBERSHIPS / AFFILIATIONS

- South Carolina Bar, Diversity Task Force
- Richland County Bar Association
- International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC)
- South Carolina Defense Trial Attorneys Association
- Defense Research Institute

- *McCreery v. Covenant Presbyterian Church*, 400 S.E.2d 130 (S.C. 1990)

Lana began his legal career clerking for the Honorable James E. Moore and later entered private practice with a focus on general civil litigation in South Carolina's state and federal courts. His experience includes asbestos litigation, breach of contract, premises liability, insurance, real estate and toxic torts.

An active member of the South Carolina Bar, Lana is a past president of the Young Lawyers Division of the Bar and previously served a two-year term as a South Carolina State Delegate to the American Bar Association House of Delegates. He has been a member of the Workers' Compensation Section of the Bar since its inception, and currently serves on the Section Council, as Immediate Past President. Lana is past president of the South Carolina Bar Foundation, recently completing a six-year term on its Board of Directors. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the South Carolina Workers' Compensation Educational Association, as Immediate Past President.

In the community, Lana is an active member of Saint Joseph Catholic Church and also participates in the South Carolina Bar program for "iCivics" - taking fundamental civics education into local area middle schools.

Among the people Lana most admires are his parents – his father married his mother while he was serving in the Navy stationed in Panama, and eventually, he became one of the first lobbyists to work at the State House in South Carolina, representing the railroad industry. Lana's mother was his professional assistant until his death in 1977. She was asked to continue in the role as lobbyist for the SC Railroad Association (and later CSX) and remained until her retirement one of the most respected pioneer female lobbyists in South Carolina and Washington, DC. Their success at work, much as with raising four children, was based on sincerity, strong moral character, and trust.

In his spare time, Lana enjoys playing golf and the guitar.

Presentations and Seminars

- "Mediation: How to Achieve Excellent Results" - Workers' Compensation: Meeting The Challenges of a Dynamic Practice, Mickle & Bass, LLC, 2015
- "Resourceful Solutions Through Mediation" - South Carolina Workers' Compensation Educational Association, Medical Seminar, 2014
- "Building Mediation Skills as the Mediator, the Employee's Attorney and the Employer's Attorney: Watch it in Action" - South Carolina Workers Compensation Symposium, Charleston School of Law, 2013.
- "Mediation in South Carolina Workers Compensation" - South Carolina Workers Compensation Educational Association, Medical Seminar, 2012.
- "S.C. Workers Compensation: a Primer on Fundamentals," presentation for In-House Client Education, 2012.
- "Mediation in South Carolina Workers Compensation Cases," presentation for South Carolina Bar Annual Meeting, 2011.

- South Carolina Bar Young Lawyers Division, former president
- American Bar Association, former South Carolina State Delegate
- South Carolina Bar Foundation, former president
- South Carolina Bar Workers Compensation Council, Immediate Past President
- South Carolina Workers Compensation Educational Association - Immediate Past President

OTHER DISTINCTIONS

- AV® Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell
- Best Lawyers® - Workers' Compensation
- Best Lawyers® "Lawyer of the Year" in Columbia – Workers' Compensation Law - Employers, 2020