

HON. LELAND P. ANDERSON (Ret.)

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Professional and Personal Statement

- Judge Anderson is an arbiter, mediator and arbitrator who served as a trial lawyer or jurist for most of his entire professional life. Though he on occasion performs arbitration work, his decided preference is mediation work. He has worked seven years in conflict resolution at Judicial Arbiter Group, Inc. He draws upon wide-ranging interests in law, ethics, art, philosophy, psychology and literature to seek creative answers to complex and difficult legal disputes. His interests range from commercial litigation including construction disputes, buy-outs, and real-estate development and property disputes to personal injury and professional malpractice disputes. He seeks to structure a productive and efficient mediation environment where clients are urged to think creatively with open minds, taking into account the perspective of the adversary as well as the vagaries of costly litigation in weighing the risks and benefits of proceeding toward settlement or trial.
- Judge Anderson seeks to build healthy and professional relationships among litigants and counsel with the goal of fostering win/win results in his mediation work. Judge Anderson believes that cases should be mediated with sincerity, openness and good humor (whenever possible). He desires to make the mediation experience a positive learning experience for everyone regardless of the outcome. He believes the law is at its best when it serves as an instrument of resolution and reconciliation rather than an instrument of retribution and retaliation. He sees each case as unique and strives to design the mediation conversation in such a way as to uncover the best arguments from all sides in order that the issues are rigorously clarified and carefully weighed in the balance. He does not perceive compromise as a weakness. He views it as a strength requiring important life-skills of wisdom, experience, and grace. In Judge Anderson's view, the best mediation is not one where all sides are equally unhappy. The best mediations result in all sides feeling proud of their work, ability to adapt, and their wisdom in bringing the controversy to an end.

Education

J.D. University of Denver College of Law, Denver, Colorado, 1975

Associate Editor, Denver Law Journal

American Jurisprudence Award

B.A. North Park College, Chicago, Illinois, 1970.

Summa Cum Laude

Yearbook Editor, Class President, Deans List

First Place, Bedford Creative Writing Contest

Experience

- Arbiter, Judicial Arbiter Group, Inc. 2007 - present
- District Court Judge, First Judicial District, State of Colorado 1997-2007
- Civil Trial Attorney (emphasis on personal injury) 1979-1997
- Deputy District Attorney, Denver, Colorado 1976-1979
- Law Clerk, Colorado Supreme Court (Justice William Erickson) 1975-1976

Publications/Presentations (Representative Samples)

- Ten years, Columnist, Colorado Lawyer, "Off the Record" 1996-2006
- "Requirement of Notice in Visual Opacity Readings," Denver Law Journal 1974
- "The Mythical Path – Finding Yourself in the Law," 2d Annual Rocky Mountain ADR Retreat, Estes Park, Colorado January 2007
- "A 'More Excellent Way': Judicial Imagination and the Art of Judging," Notre Dame Journal of Law, Ethics & Public Policy 2008
- "Spiral Dynamics and the Legal Mind," American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers April 2007
- "Warriors, Kings and Poets," Colorado Court of Appeals Intern Program February 2007
- "The Path of the Heart," Colorado Trial Lawyers Auto Blockbuster Seminar January 2007
- "Trials, Tests and Ordeals in the Legal Kingdom (The Quest for Professionalism In a Dangerous Time)," Santa Fe Trial Lawyers Association December 2006
- "Mediators Beyond Borders, Using Artistry to Build Peace In Our Community," Colorado State ADR Conference October 2008
- "Mediation Tips," First Judicial District Bar Association April 2013
- Contributing Author, "Disturbing the Peace, Writings by Colorado Attorneys," Ed. Colorado and Denver Bar Associations 2001
- Featured in "Fighting for Justice, Cases and Trial Lawyers That Made a Difference," Wesley J. Smith 2001
- Note: The above are representative samples of speeches and publications. Judge Anderson has also addressed the Wyoming Trial Lawyers Association, the Missouri Trial Lawyers Association, the

Kentucky Trial Lawyers Association, the San Antonio Trial Lawyers Association, the Colorado Trial Lawyers Association and has made other presentations to other professional organizations. He has spoken on a variety of topics such as Electronic Evidence, Expert Witness Testimony, Search and Seizure Law, Depositions, Mediation Tactics, etc. Judge Anderson’s Colorado Lawyer column, “Off the Record,” a ten-year exploration of the soul of the law and lawyers, has been praised by many lawyers for its originality, its expressive tone, and its passionate defense of the rule of law.

Honors

- Trial Lawyer of the Year, Trial Lawyers for Public Justice, awarded in San Francisco, California 1993
- Donald Hoagland Award for Legal Services to the Poor 1993
- Colorado State Senate Commendation for Legal Services 1993
- Colorado Bar Association Board of Governors 1998
- President, Colorado Trial Lawyers Association 1994-1995
- President, Colorado District Judges Association 2001-2001
- Lead Counsel, Berthoud Pass Bus Accident 1986-1993
- Chair, Colorado Bar Association Professionalism Committee 2000-2002
- Chair, Colorado Supreme Court Jury Reform Committee 2002-2003
- Co-Chair Magistrates Committee, Blue Ribbon Governor’s Task Force on Civil Justice Reform – resulting in legislation creating twenty-four new District Court Judgeships in Colorado 1999
- Colorado Supreme Court, Court Access Committee 2001-2003
- Award of Merit (highest honor First Judicial District Bar Association) 2007

Military Experience

- United States Marine Corps Reserve (Platoon Honor Man – ranked Number one in boot camp graduation from platoon of approximately 90 recruits; ranked expert in M-14 rifle; two meritorious promotions; experience in 155 mm gun battery, photo-intelligence unit; Huey gunship unit; Honorable Discharge) 1970-1973

- United States Army Reserve (Judge Advocate General; Honorable Discharge) 1973-1977

Professional Associations (Past and Present)

- American Bar Foundation Fellow
- Colorado Bar Association and Denver Bar Association

Interests

- Photography. For almost forty years Judge Anderson has enjoyed photography. Some of Judge Anderson's collection of photos may be seen at Judicial Arbiter Group, Inc. He recently completed a photography expedition to the warehouse district of Los Angeles to shoot photos of large-wall graffiti.
- For approximately one year. Judge Anderson has been "attempting" to learn West African and Caribbean rhythms on the Djembe and bongo drums. He describes his success thus far as "marginal."
- Woodworking. Judge Anderson has enjoyed woodcraft and modeling for thirty years. Outside his office is a scaled replica of the largest trebuchet he constructed called "The War Wolf," the largest trebuchet ever built in ancient times.
- Writing. Judge Anderson is currently planning a novel/screen play exploring gypsy culture in Southern Spain in the 1930s and 1940s. At Judicial Arbiter Group, Inc., you may view several of Judge Anderson's art pieces in his rather unusual office.
- Slot canyons. Judge Anderson enjoys exploring Slot Canyons. Two years ago he made his second entrance into Buckskin Gulch in Southern Utah, completing the 22-mile hike from Wire Pass to White House. In 2013, he completed the 17-mile down-stream hike through the Zion Narrows in Zion National Park.

Personal

- Judge Anderson is married to Susan Anderson, a psychotherapist in Jefferson County Colorado who has her own practice in adult and couple's counseling.
- Judge Anderson has two children. His son, Max Anderson, is a Princeton/Harvard graduate who works as a manager at Bridgewater Associates in Westport, Connecticut. He has published a book called **The MBA Oath** and has spoken internationally on issues of ethics, professionalism and integrity in business management. Max and his wife Jess have three children – Carolina Fern, Grace Isabelle and Samuel Lionheart (Judge Anderson's beloved grandchildren). Judge Anderson's daughter, Anna Anderson, is a

working actress in Los Angeles. A graduate of the University of Southern California School of Theatre, Anna is currently working on a role in a comedic romantic film being shot in California. She has also worked in improvisational comedy and is currently writing a screenplay. Judge Anderson is a native Coloradoan. His father was a commercial building contractor for over fifty years in the Denver area. Judge Anderson's first job was working as a laborer on his father's construction crew. His mother and father, in their nineties, still live independently in Arvada, Colorado. He says of his father: "He is the most outgoing and positive person I have ever known in my life." And of his mother he says, "She is the epitome of relentless endurance and hard-work."