

Honorable Richard B. Klein (Ret.)



Judge Richard B. Klein retired from the bench after 36 years of service on the trial and appellate courts to join The Dispute Resolution Institute, providing arbitration, mediation, and appellate advising services. When Judge Klein was elected to the Superior Court of Pennsylvania in 2001, he received a "highly recommended" rating from the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the endorsement of every major newspaper in the State that made judicial endorsements. He was a trial judge on the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia since 1971, when he was the youngest judge in the history of Pennsylvania.

He is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Amherst College and an honors graduate of Harvard Law School. He is founder and chair emeritus of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Plain English Committee and is a member of the House of Delegates of the PBA. He served as member of the Supreme Court Appellate Rules Committee from 2005 to 2011. He is co-author of the West Publication book, Trial Communication Skills, written with Body Language author Julius Fast and international lawyer Roberto Aron. He is the vice-chair of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's Pennsylvania Futures Commission for Justice in the 21st Century. Judge Klein frequently lectures on Effective Writing, Trial and Appellate Advocacy, Alternative Dispute Resolution, and other topics. He received Mediation Training both at the National Judicial College and at the American Bar Association Mediation Training for Judges and is a certified American Arbitration Association arbitrator having completed the AAA training in Boston. He served as chair of the American Bar Association State Trial Judge Technology Committee and was founding chair of "LUG-PC" (Lawyers User Group for Personal Computing) of the Philadelphia Bar Association. He is the educational leader for legal-study tours sponsored by the Corporation for Professional Conferences, having led 18 such trips, including trips to Russia, China, Greece, Egypt, the Czech Republic and Hungary, and South Africa in April, 2011. He served for fifteen years as an adjunct lecturer at Temple University Law School teaching trial advocacy and legal writing. He also is the drummer and leader of the jazz groups, "The Reading Terminals" and "The Fifth Amendment."