

# **THOMAS D. LAMBROS**

Chief Judge Emeritus, United States District Court,  
Northern District of Ohio, Cleveland, Ohio



Now a Private Judge who utilized unique applications of hybrid and integrated ADR processes to achieve settlements in hard core durable disputes.

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## **OBJECTIVE:**

To provide the highest level of Alternative Dispute Resolution (“ADR”) services to class representatives, CEOs, courts and attorneys covering a vast spectrum of litigation management, including mass tort, airplane disasters, anti-trust, patent, intellectual property, environmental/superfund, pharmaceutical, mergers and acquisition, securities, employment, ERISA, sexual abuse, and a wide variety of complex contractual relationships.

## **WHO IS AND WHY JUDGE LAMBROS?**

Judge Lambros served for 34 years as a federal and state trial judge. He was Chief Judge of the United States District Court, Cleveland, Ohio, a member of the faculty of the Federal Judicial Center, served as a member of the Board of The Judicial Conference of the United States and its committees by appointment of The Chief Justice. He served as Transferee Judge by appointment of the Panel On Complex Multi-District Litigation.

Judge Lambros’ authorship of ADR publications and lectures at major law schools earned him the rank as a legendary pioneer in the field of ADR and is referred to as the “guru” of ADR. *Corporate International*, May, 2009.

Judge Lambros keeps everybody talking and working when talking is usually over.

## **ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION INNOVATION AND APPLICATION**

- Invented the Summary Jury Trial method of dispute resolution approved for use by the Judicial Conference of the United States in 1984, utilizing a two track parallel management plan incorporating a voluntary litigation track with controlled and phased discovery and a settlement track which proceeds concurrently exploring settlement opportunities.
- Appointed by Senate Judiciary Committee to have the United District Court for the Northern District of Ohio designated as a Demonstrating District in Differential Case Management which led to the passage of the Civil Justice Reform Act of 1990.
- Served for over three decades on the faculty of the Federal Judicial Center as an instructor in the areas of civil and criminal case management, management of complex multi-district litigation, and alternative methods of dispute resolution.
- Assigned to use Summary Jury Trial as Special Counsel to Official Committee of Tort Claimants in the *In re Dow Corning Corp.* Chapter 11 bankruptcy matter to achieve valuations for thousands of breast implant cases.
- Managed pretrial coordination, trial and settlement of *In re Air Crash at LaGuardia Airport* in March 1992.
- Designated and implemented unique case management plan and computer assisted case evaluation process used to resolve approximately 10,000 asbestos related personal injury claims.
- Served as an expert witness regarding cost effective methods of case management during the State of Ohio Attorney General's Litigation for reimbursement of health care costs from the Tobacco Industry.
- Served as Master and Settlement Master in Kentucky State Court child abuse class action.
- Founder and former Chairman and President of the Thomas D. Lambros Dispute Management Center which assembles neutral arbitrators and mediators to resolve private disputes.

- Founder of FedNet, a consortium of over thirty (30) retired Federal Judges acting as neutrals for private dispute resolution at all stages of litigation.

## **JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE**

- 1990-1995 Chief Judge, United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
- 1967-1995 United States District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio (Lyndon B. Johnson, Appointee)
- 1961-1967 Judge, Ashtabula County Court of Common Pleas, State of Ohio

## **AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

- The 1997 National Public Service Award from the Ohio State University School of Public Policy in Management;
- In 1996, Congress enacted Public Law 104-136 designating and dedicating the U.S. Courthouse in Youngstown, Ohio the Thomas D. Lambros Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse;
- The 1996 recipient of the American Judicature Society's Herbert Harley Award for outstanding efforts for contributions for substantially changing and improving the administration of justice;
- The 1996 recipient of the of The American Arbitration Association Whitney North Seymour, Sr. Medal, given to one person annually "in recognition of outstanding contributions" to the dispute resolution field; and
- The 1986 recipient of the Award for Outstanding Achievement in Alternative Dispute Resolution, awarded by the Center for Public Resources.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- *The Summary Jury Trial*, 29 CLEV. ST. L. REV. 43 (1980);
- *The Judge's Role in Fostering Voluntary Settlements*, 29 VILL. L. REV. 1363 (1983-84);

- *The Summary Jury Trial - An Alternative Method of Resolving Disputes*, 69 JUDICATURE 286 (1986);
- *The Future of Alternative Dispute Resolution*, 14 PEPP. L. REV. 801 (1987);
- *The Summary Jury Trial: An Effective Aid to Settlement*, 77 JUDICATURE 6 (1993);
- *The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure: A New Adversarial Model for a New Era*, 50 U. PITT. L. REV. 789 (1989);
- *The Summary Jury Trial - Ending the Guessing Game: An Objective Means of Case Evaluation, A Comment on Professor Woodley's Proposal*, 12 OHIO ST. J. ON DISP. RESOL. 621 (1997).
- Authored "The Summary Jury Trial and Other Alternative Methods of Dispute Resolution" to the Judicial Conference of the United States Committee on the Operation of the Jury System, 103 F.R.D. 461, 483-84 (1984), and was asked by Professor Nancy Rogers, currently the Dean of the Ohio State University Law School and the Attorney General of the State of Ohio, to author the first article to be published in the first volume of the Ohio State Journal on Dispute Resolution, entitled "The Alternatives Movement: Rekindling America's Creative Spirit, Introduction", 1 OHIO ST. J. ON DISP. RESOL. 3 (1985).

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- Life Member of the Sixth Circuit Judicial Conference and a former member of the Board of The Judicial Conference of the United States;
- The Federal Bar Association, Northern District of Ohio, Past President;
- Federal Judges Association, Past President;
- Panel Member for the American Arbitration Association National Mass Torts Panel;
- Member of the National Panel of Distinguished Neutrals, Center for Public Resources;
- The American Bar Association;
- The Ohio Bar Association;

- Ashtabula County Bar Association, Past President; and
- American Bar Foundation, Fellow; and Ohio State Bar Foundation, Fellow.

## **TEACHING**

Served for over three decades on the faculty of the Federal Judicial Center as an instructor in the areas of civil and criminal case management, management of complex multi-district litigation, and alternative methods of dispute resolution.

Lectured and/or taught assignments regarding Alternative Dispute Resolution at the following law schools and professional associations:

- Harvard
- Yale
- Duke
- Northwestern, Ohio State
- Boston University
- Illinois
- Villanova
- Kentucky
- Pittsburgh
- Texas
- Case Western Reserve
- Cleveland-Marshall
- Capital
- American
- Ohio Northern
- Various Bar Associations
- Fellows of the American College of Trial Lawyers

## **EDUCATION**

Cleveland Marshall Law School – L.L.P. 1952

Capital University – Honorary Doctorate of Law 1991