

Richard Millen: Mediator as a Way of Life

Half lawyer, half entrepreneur, and always, dedicated family man, Millen was admitted to the California bar in June 1949. After a few years as a research and litigation associate, government lawyer and house counsel for a corporation, he started his career as a transactional lawyer and operating officer for a group of Wall Street investment bankers. During this time, while involved in their varied ventures, he also became “of Counsel” to the law firm of Schwartz & Alschuler, now known as Alschuler, Grossman, Stein & Kahan, and remained there for 17 years. Always a dealmaker, Millen finally found a “home in the practice of mediation in 1986.

Like many of us who entered the field of mediation at that time, Millen found his place in it by accident and through an evolution of thought, rather than a conscious career decision. Not a man who will ever contemplate retirement, after many years in business and the practice of law, he was looking for a new direction that would both satisfy his entrepreneurial spirit and soulful nature.

As a professional volunteer for almost two decades, Richard Millen has received substantial recognition as a leader in the mediation field. In 1988, Millen co-chaired the first conference of mediations in Southern California, which led to a second conference at which the SCMA was born. As a founding member and former board member/officer of the Southern California Mediation Association, he has chaired and co-chaired several of SCMA’s subsequent Conferences.

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS & TRAININGS

- Former Adjunct Professor in Mediation at Cal State Dominguez Hills, Behavioral Science Graduate School; and Institute of Dispute Resolution, Pepperdine Law School
- Private Mediation Trainer, Workshop Leader, and Speaker on Conciliation, Mediation, and Listening, for various business, legal, mediation, therapy and other groups including many SCMA conferences.
- Harvard Law School (J.D.);
- University of Tennessee (B.S. in Finance and Accounting, summa cum laude)

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

Admitted, California State Bar; U.S. District Court, Central District of California.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Association for Conflict Resolution (and its former constituents, Society for Professionals in Dispute Resolution and Academy of Family Mediators), Southern California Mediation Association; Los Angeles County Bar Association (LACBA); Beverly Hills Bar Assn.; Member, Board of Directors, LACBA Dispute Resolution Services; * Exec. Comm., ADR Section of Beverly Hills Bar, Panel of Arbitrators and/or Mediators of L.A. Municipal & Superior Courts; *Federal Bankruptcy Court, Central District of California;

California Department of Insurance; American Arbitration Association; U.S. Postal Service; E.E.O.C.; Court of Appeal, second Appellate District and other mediation and arbitration service providers.

* Formerly a member.

PUBLICATIONS

A self-published book on divorce mediation as an alternative to litigation, over a dozen articles and innumerable commentaries and memoranda on mediation and ADR.

AWARDS & COMMENDATIONS

- “Distinguished Service Award” Master Forum 2002 at Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution;
- “Hon. Benjamin A. Aranda, III, Outstanding Public Service Award” from Los Angeles County Bar Association, 1998,
- Several awards from the Southern California Mediation Association, including “Peacemaker of the Year” Award (in 2004 the “Peacemaker of the Year Award” was re-named the “Cloke-Millen Peacemaker of the Year” Award)
- Several awards from LACBA and Dispute Resolution Services, including Irvin E. Miller Lifetime Achievement Award.