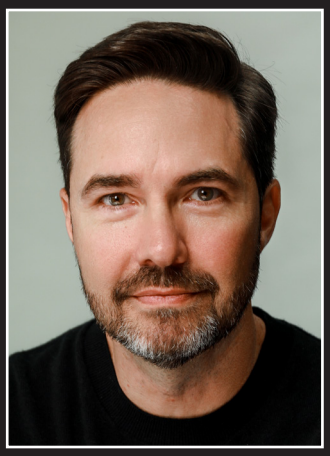

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Andrew O. Smith, Esq.

Mediator & Discovery Referee

Mr. Smith is a full-time neutral who has a natural ability to facilitate open dialogue and to effectively communicate in positive and cooperative ways. He developed a passion for resolving disputes and bringing people together after serving as a litigator in Southern California for almost 25 years. Recognized by peers and opposing counsel as an effective advocate, Mr. Smith always has a natural instinct to seek cooperation and early resolution to serve the best interests of his clients. With a broad range of experience on both the plaintiff and defense sides, Mr. Smith has a good perspective of the issues, motivations and needs of all parties.

Practice Areas

- Bad Faith / Insurance Coverage
- Business / Contractual
- Complex Litigation
- Construction Claims
- Construction Defect
- Cybersecurity & Privacy
- Disability / Access
- Discovery
- E-Discovery
- Elder Care
- Federal Disputes
- Fee Disputes
- Governmental Entities
- Habitability
- Homeowners Association
- Low Cost Options
- Medical Malpractice
- Personal Injury – Traumatic Brain Injury
- Premises Liability
- Products Liability

Conflict Resolution Experience

Mr. Smith was formerly the managing shareholder in the Los Angeles office for a prominent multi-state law firm. During his litigation career, Mr. Smith represented Fortune 500 companies, governmental agencies, small businesses and individuals on both the plaintiff and defense sides. He has always been a huge proponent of early dispute resolution and has participated in over 1,000 mediations as either a mediator or attorney. Mr. Smith has served as a frequent volunteer mediator for the Los Angeles County Superior Court where he has achieved significant success helping parties resolve cases. He has also completed training in dispute resolution at the elite Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University.

Organizations & Achievements

Los Angeles County Bar Association (Member) – served on the following committees:

- Litigation Section Executive Committee
- President's Advisory Committe on Women in the Practice of Law
- Judicial Appointment Committee
- Committee on Adequate State Court Funding and Operations
- Delegation to the Conference of Delegates

Super Lawyers

- Rising Star (2008 – 2015)
- Super Lawyer (2021 – 2024)

Education & Training

- Graduate (2024), Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University School of Law
- JD (2001), Pepperdine University School of Law, cum laude
- B.A. (1998), Florida State University, magna cum laude

Mr. Smith is available throughout California.