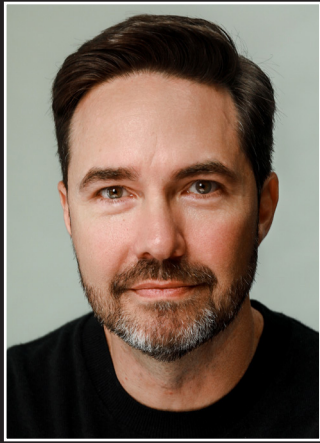




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Andrew O. Smith, Esq.

Mediator & Discovery Referee

Mr. Smith is a full-time mediator and discovery referee known for his ability to break through impasses and deliver results. Available throughout California, Mr. Smith brings a creative, solutions-focused approach to every case, helping parties find resolution even when negotiations seem hopelessly stalled. Recognized as both an ARC Top Neutral and a Rising Star in Mediation, Mr. Smith has earned a reputation for an exceptionally high settlement rate across a broad range of practice areas. What sets Mr. Smith apart is his instinct for identifying the hidden obstacles that keep cases from resolving and his skill in deploying creative strategies to overcome them. Whether working through deeply entrenched positions or navigating emotionally charged disputes, he brings the patience, ingenuity, and persistence needed to move parties from conflict to closure. Mr. Smith's natural ability to build trust, facilitate candid dialogue, and reframe difficult issues has made him a go-to neutral for attorneys who need more than a passive facilitator — they need someone who will actively drive the process toward resolution.

Practice Areas

- Bad Faith / Insurance Coverage
- Business / Contractual
- Complex Litigation
- Construction Claims
- Construction Defect
- Cybersecurity & Privacy
- Disability / Access
- Discovery
- E-Discovery
- Elder Care
- Employment
- 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 Committee 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.