

## HON. HAROLD B. BEELER (RET.)

*Justice of the Supreme Court, New York*

Hon. Harold B. Beeler has served as the acting New York Supreme Court Justice in Manhattan since 1991. Prior to this appointment, he was elected a Judge in Civil Court of the City of New York three times serving from 1988 to 2009. Judge Beeler also worked as a Law Clerk for Judge Lawrence Bernstein and at the Legal Aid Society of New York as a staff attorney. He is admitted to practice in the First Department and in the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York.

Judge Beeler obtained his J.D. from Harvard Law School and his B.A. from the University of Michigan, and an LL.M. in taxation from New York University School of Law. In December 2009, he retired from his position on the bench to pursue a full-time career as a mediator and arbitrator with National Arbitration and Mediation (NAM). He has received extensive training and certification in ADR and has completed a 42-Hour Mediation Training with the Center for Mediation & Training and Intensive Mediation Training at the Center for Mediation in Law.

Judge Beeler is a hard-working and detail-oriented jurist whose even-handed demeanor makes him highly-effective in facilitating the resolution of complex matters. He is particularly adept at winning the confidence of counsel and clients alike. Judge Beeler has presided over a wide-variety of high-profile matters which coupled with his extensive legal and educational background makes him ideal for complex, multi-party cases.

Some representative matters include, an employment disciplinary case involving an ob-gyn doctor affiliated with Mount Sinai hospital who had been artificially increasing the number of births from the women under his care by drug-inducing labor; a products liability case against a large electronics manufacturer for a defective DVD player, which ignited a fire within a residential home; and an intellectual property case, alleging the unauthorized use of a high profile sportswear brand's label on imported goods from India.

Judge Beeler also has presided over complex employment cases some of which include, violations of New York's Whistleblower Statute (Labor Law section 740) wherein a unionized employee alleged economic retaliation for disclosing the existence of unattended tankers holding dangerous PCP chemicals; a sex discrimination lawsuit brought by a Columbia University tenured mathematics professor for underpaying her and other women professors compared to male professors; and violations of State and City Human Rights laws including one involving a seamstress in the fur department of a major department store who claimed she was discriminated against because she was Greek; and a suit brought by a New York City public school teacher who claimed discrimination because of her Colombian heritage.

### ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION EXPERIENCE

- Business/Commercial
- Construction
- Employment
- Insurance/Re-Insurance Coverage
- Intellectual Property
- Labor Law
- Medical Malpractice
- Negligence
- Personal Injury
- Premises Liability
- Product Liability
- Professional Liability
- Real Estate
- Taxation

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## JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE

- Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York (1991-2009)
- Judge of the Civil Court of the City of New York (1988-2009)

## PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

- Law Secretary, Hon. Lawrence Bernstein, Supreme Court, Bronx County (1978-1987)
- Staff Attorney, Legal Aid Society, Criminal Defense Division (1976-1978)
- Staff Attorney, Legal Aid Society, Juvenile Rights Division (1975-1976)

## EDUCATION

- New York University School of Law, LL.M. in Taxation (1987)
- Harvard University School of Law, J.D., *cum laude* (1974)
- University of Michigan, B.A., *magna cum laude* (1967)

## PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

- New York State Bar
- U.S. District Court, Southern and Eastern Districts of New York

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- New York State Bar Association
- New York County Lawyers Association
- Association of the Bar of the City of New York

## FORMAL ADR TRAINING

- 42 Hour Mediation Training, The Center for Mediation & Training (2009)
- Intensive Mediation Training, The Center for Mediation in Law (2009)

### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- “Access to Justice for the Self-Represented: Court and Community Based Strategies and Solutions,” Eastern Regional Conference, Invited Participant (May 2006).
- “Partners in Justice: A Colloquium on Developing Collaboration Among Courts, Law School Clinical Programs and the Practicing Bar,” Invited Participant (May 2005).
- “Sanction v Treatment: Does the Treatment Fit the Crime,” Forum sponsored by the Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services (CASES), Invited Participant (June 1994).
- “Children Left Behind,” Symposium on Children of Incarcerated Parents sponsored by the Osborne Association, Invited Participant (June 1994).
- “What I Want from an ATI (Alternative to Incarceration) Program the Judicial, Prosecution and Defense Perspective,” Forum sponsored by the Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services (CASES), Invited Participant (Nov 1993).
- “Search and Seizure and Right to Counsel” and “Rights of Battered Women and Sexually Abused Children,” Marist College Special Education Program, Guest lecturer (1983 and 1986).