

## HON. ELIZABETH BONINA (RET.)

*Justice of the Supreme Court, Kings*

As a former Justice of the Supreme Court, Kings County, Judge Bonina has experience facilitating the settlement of personal injury, premises liability, labor law matters, and employment law cases. More importantly, it is Judge Bonina's skill as a mediator and arbitrator that makes her an effective Hearing Officer as she is known for her intelligence, determination, patience and ability to get even the most complex, highly emotional and contentious cases resolved. She has the ability to develop a rapport with even the most challenging and combative of personalities.

Judge Bonina has served as a court examiner/referee pursuant to Article 81 of the Mental Hygiene Law in the Appellate Division, Second Department starting in 1995. As a court examiner/referee, Judge Bonina would conduct hearings, take testimony and issue recommendations to the Supreme Court Justices presiding over IAS Part 76. In 1998, she was appointed to the New York City Taxi & Limousine Commission as an Administrative Law Judge where she served for over four years until she was appointed by Governor George Pataki as a Justice of the Supreme Court in the Second Judicial District. During her tenure as an Administrative Law Judge with the Taxi Commission, Judge Bonina quickly rose through the ranks. She went from conducting hearings and rendering decisions, to the Appeals Division where she conducted appellate review of ALJ decisions, to Assistant Chief Administrative Law Judge in charge of supervising all Judges at the various agency Tribunals, and then was promoted to Chief Administrative Law Judge.

While serving as a Justice of the Supreme Court in the Second Judicial District, some representative matters she presided over include a complex multi-party commercial case involving the removal of the director of the board without cause, and the dissolution of the company including shareholder rights; a major class action law suit involving a class of employees who alleged unlawful deductions from their wages; and a landlord tenant case involving an alleged invasion of privacy due to newly installed surveillance cameras. Since joining our panel Judge Bonina has both mediated and arbitrated a wide variety of cases including labor law matters with severe injuries to employees, employment matters, and personal injury cases with complex coverage issues.

### ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION EXPERIENCE

- Automobile Accidents
- Business/Commercial
- Employment
- Insurance/Re-Insurance Coverage
- Labor Law
- Medical Malpractice
- Negligence
- Personal Injury
- Premises Liability
- Professional Liability

### JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE

- Chief Administrative Law Judge, NYC Taxi & Limousine Commission (2001-2002 + 2003-2007)
- Justice of the Supreme Court (June 2002-December 2002)
- Administrative Law Judge, NYC Taxi & Limousine Commission (1998-2001)
- Administrative Law Judge, NYC Environmental Control Board (2007-present)
- Court Examiner/Referee, Appellate Division, Second Dept. (1995-2002)

## PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

- Partner/Managing Attorney, Bonina & Bonina, P.C. (1991-1998)

## PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

- New York State Bar

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES & MEMBERSHIPS

- New York State Academy of Trial Lawyers
- Association of the Bar of the City of New York
- Association of Small Claims Arbitrators
- Catholic Lawyers Guild
- Brooklyn Bar Association
- Bay Ridge Lawyers Association
- Former Board Member, New York State Trial Lawyers Association

## EDUCATION

- Brooklyn Law School, J.D. (1991)
- Villanova University, B.S. (1983)

## TEACHING & PUBLICATIONS

- Former Dean, New York State Trial Lawyers Institute
- Former Delegate, Citywide Administrative Law Judge Training Committee
- Researched and drafted updates to the TLC's Manual for Administrative Law Judges
- Lecturer, "Settlement and ADR Tactics" (2009, Bay Ridge Lawyers Association)
- Lecturer, "Navigating New York City's Administrative Courts" (2004, Bay Ridge Lawyers Association)
- Lecturer, "Ethics in Trial Practice" (2003, Bay Ridge Lawyers Association)
- Lecturer, "Article 81 of the Mental Hygiene Law" (2001, 2000, 1998, Brooklyn Bar Association)
- Lecturer, "No-Fault for Paralegals" (1992, NYSTLA).
- Adjunct Professor, St. Joseph's College in Brooklyn, New York (Business Law I and Business Law II)
- Instructor, Training Course for new Administrative Law Judge appointees to the NYC TLC.