

HON. GEORGE FRIEDMAN (RET.)

Justice of the Supreme Court, Bronx

Hon. George Friedman served as a New York Justice of the Supreme Court in Bronx County from 1995 to 2002. He joined NAM as a mediator and arbitrator shortly after his retirement. He also served as an advisor and counsel to the international law firm of Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman & Dicker LLP and has since committed himself to a full-time ADR practice.

Judge Friedman is a graduate of N.Y.U. School of Law, where he was a member of the Law Review and earned a scholarship based on academic achievement, in 1959. After several years as an associate at Kronish & Lieb, Esq., he engaged upon the individual practice of law in conjunction with a life devoted to public service which started with a position as a staff member in the New York State Assembly.

After twelve years as a professional staff person, including service as Chief Counsel to the Assembly Ways and Means Committee during the New York City fiscal crisis of 1975-76, he was elected as a member to the New York State Assembly in 1976. During his eighteen years as a Member of the Assembly, Judge Friedman was chosen by Governor Hugh Carey to chair the Temporary State Commission to Recodify the Family Court Act, chosen by Speaker Stanley Fink as Chairman of the Standing Committee on Real Property Taxation, and appointed by Speaker Saul Weprin as Deputy Majority Leader of the Assembly. During this time he also was a member of the Democratic National Committee and the Democratic County Leader of Bronx County.

In 1994, Judge Friedman gave up the positions of Bronx Democratic County Leader and Member of Assembly to run for the position of Supreme Court Justice in the 12th Judicial District where he served with distinction until his retirement on January 16, 2002. During his tenure on the bench, Commissioner Friedman served as a member of the Board of Justices of the 12th Judicial District, the Board of Directors of the Supreme Court Justices Association of the City of New York, the 12th District Representative to the New York State Association of Supreme Court Justices and as a member of the Executive Committee of the latter organization.

His devotion to public service has continued throughout his career and even after his retirement from the bench. Judge Friedman was appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly Sheldon Silver in 2002 to serve on the New York State Commission of Investigation, where every aspect of government and public peace comes under their jurisdiction. Then in April of 2003, Judge Friedman was appointed in 2003 by Chief Justice Judith Kaye of the New York State Court of Appeals as a member of the Commission to Promote Public Confidence in Judicial Elections, also known as the Feerick Commission. During this time the Chief Justice sought to foster public trust and confidence in the state's judiciary and address concerns that judicial elections were being conducted in ways that threatened the independence and impartiality of judges.

Judge Friedman continues to work with the Association of Justices of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, the New York City Association of Supreme Court Justices and the Bronx County Bar Association. He is also an active member of the Board of Directors of the Institute of Applied Human Dynamics in rendering assistance to developmentally disabled people. The organization recently honored him at its annual dinner at Chelsea Piers with its Lifetime Achievement Award.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION EXPERIENCE

- Bankruptcy
- Construction
- Employment
- Insurance
- Medical Malpractice
- Negligence
- Personal Injury
- Premises Liability
- Product Liability
- Professional Liability
- Real Estate
- Torts

JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE

- Justice, Supreme Court, 12th Judicial District, Bronx (1995 to 2002)

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

- Of Counsel, Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman & Dicker (2002-2008)
- Member, New York State Assembly (1977 -1994)
- Staff Member, New York State Assembly (1965-1976)
- Private Practice (1965-1994)
- Associate, Kronish & Liev (1959-1964)

EDUCATION

- New York University, School of Law, LL.B. (1959)
 - Recipient of the Murray C. Becker Scholarship
 - Member of Law Review
- University of Vermont, B.A. (1956)

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

- New York State Bar

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Delegate, Democratic Judicial Conventions (1972-1986)
- New York State Association of Supreme Court Justices,
- Association of Supreme Court Justices of the City of New York
- Active in State, City and Bronx Judicial Associations