



RICHARD P. BYRNE, ESQ.

Complex Commercial, Insurance/Reinsurance/Risk Allocation, Employment, Construction

Richard P. Byrne, Esq. became a Mediator in the formative days of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) and has honed and broadened his mediation skills over the years through experience and practice. Mr. Byrne has also served as an Arbitrator for many years. His keen ability to weigh facts and apply the law and/or applicable rules serves him well in handling a wide range of disputes. His legal career of over 40 years brings an added dimension of expertise to the matters over which he presides.

He is well-respected professionally and has a reputation for bringing the most contentious disputes to a full and final resolution. A strong proponent of ADR and a Certified Mediator with the United States District Court, Mr. Byrne brings more than 30 years of ADR experience to NAM's New York Metro panel of neutrals.

Mr. Byrne has successfully mediated issues in a wide variety of specialty areas, including commercial disputes, employment discrimination claims, employment contract disputes, wage and hour/FLSA claims, construction matters, complex personal injury and property damage claims, insurance and reinsurance matters, risk transfer disputes and life, health, and disability claims.

As an Arbitrator, Mr. Byrne has presided over many commercial disputes, including construction claims, business and contract matters, as well as insurance coverage disputes.

In 2013, Mr. Byrne was selected by Kenneth R. Feinberg, the former Administrator of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund, to assist in the mediation and resolution of Hurricane Sandy claims. He was also asked to join a sub-panel for the United States District Court to help resolve a backload of over 1,400 Hurricane Sandy lawsuits. Mr. Byrne is a member of the Mediation panels for both the United States District Court and the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of New York. In 2016, Mr. Byrne was appointed to serve on the Advisory Council to the ADR Department of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

In 2024, for the tenth year in a row, Mr. Byrne was named one of the Top Three Mediators in the United States by the *National Law Journal* "Best Of" survey. He was also ranked a Top Ten Mediator for the 10th consecutive year by the 2023 *New York Law Journal* "Best Of" survey. Additionally, he was voted a Top Three Mediator by the *Corporate Counsel* "Best Of" survey. Mr. Byrne was also named as a *National Law Journal* Alternative Dispute Resolution Champion, as part of a select group of only 46 neutrals nationwide. He has been awarded an A-V rating by Martindale-Hubbell, the highest rating available, based on its peer review process and has consistently been recognized by his peers as a New York Metro Super Lawyer.

Richard Byrne is available to mediate and arbitrate cases throughout the United States.

AREAS of EXPERIENCE

- Complex Commercial
- Construction
- Life, Health and Disability Claims
- Employment Disputes
 - Discrimination
 - Employment Contracts
 - Harassment
 - Hostile Work Environment
 - Wage and Hours/ FLSA
 - Wrongful Termination
- Insurance/Reinsurance
- Labor Law
- Negligence
- Personal Injury
- Product Liability
- Property Damage
- Risk Transfer

LECTURES and PUBLICATIONS

- Speaker, *Resolving Coverage Disputes in Mediation*, webinar, Practising Law Institute (PLI), 2023
- Co-presenter, *NAM Academy: Inside the Mind of the Mediator: Avoiding Impasse and Maximizing Outcomes in Mediation*, webinar presented by NAM (National Arbitration and Mediation), 2022
- Speaker, *The Means and Methods of Resolving Coverage Disputes in Mediation*, Lawline, 2021
- Speaker, *The Do's and Don'ts of Virtual ADR*, webinar presented to Chubb, 2021
- Author, *The Virtues of Virtual Alternative Dispute Resolution*, New York Real Estate Journal (NYREJ), 2021
- Author, *Construction Defect Claims: A Mediator's Perspective*, Defense Association of New York (DANY), *Defendant*, Winter Edition, 2021
- Speaker, ADR Committee Meeting featuring Hon. John P. DiBlasi (Ret.) and Richard P. Byrne, Esq., with the New York County Lawyers Association, 2020
- Panel Member, *The Mediators Speak - Mediating in the Virtual World*, webinar presented to the CLM Construction Conference, 2020
- Speaker, *Inside the Mind of a Mediator: Avoiding and Maximizing Outcomes in Mediation*, webinar presented to DANY (Defense Association of New York), 2020
- Speaker, *Resolving Coverage Disputes in Mediation*, webinar presented to Corporate Counsel Business Journal (CCBJ), 2020
- Speaker, *Reduce Time & Cost: Crafting Effective Arbitration Clauses*, webinar presented to Clear Law Institute, 2020
- Author, *Back to the Future – Where Does Mediation Go From Here?* Law.com, 2020
- Panel Member, *The Means and Methods of Resolving Coverage Disputes in Mediation*, webinar presented to the New York State Academy of Trial Lawyers, 2020
- Panel Member, *Resolving Coverage Disputes in Mediation*, webinar presented to the New York State Academy of Trial Lawyers
- CCBJ Interview, *Coming Face-To-Face with Virtual Alternative Dispute Resolution*, Corporate Counsel Business Journal (CCBJ), 2020
- Speaker, *An Introduction to the Use of Video Conferencing for Arbitration and Mediation and Its Benefits*, webinar presented by NAM (National Arbitration and Mediation), 2020
- Author, *The Virtues of Virtual ADR*, New York Law Journal, 2020
- Author, *Conditional and Alternative Demands/Offers Can Often Make the Difference in Mediation*, New York Law Journal, 2020

- Speaker, *Crafting Arbitration Clauses: How Specificity Reduces Dispute Time and Costs*, presented to Pryor Cashman, LLP, 2019
- Co-Author, *The Benefits of Early Mediation: The Path Least Taken Requires Commitment* (with Hon. Peter B. Skelos (Ret.)), New York Law Journal ADR Special Report, 2019
- Author, *The Role of Humor in Mediation – No Laughing Matter!*, New York Law Journal, 2019
- Speaker, *Mediating Construction Defect Claims*, presented to Vela Insurance Services, 2019
- Speaker/Panel Member, *Inside the Mind of a Mediator: Avoiding Impasse and Maximizing Outcomes in Mediation*, Association of Corporate Counsel – New York City Chapter, Signature CLE, 2019
- Speaker, *Mediating Construction Defect Claims and Delay Claims*, presented to Troutman Sanders LLP, 2019
- Speaker/Panel Member, *In Mediation, Your Gotta Have (Good) Faith*, ACC-NYC Ethics Marathon, 2019
- Author, *Speak to Your Mediator – Early and Often!*, New York Law Journal, 2019
- Speaker/Panel Member, *Inside the Mind of a Mediator: Avoiding Impasse and Maximizing Outcomes in Mediation*, presented to Pryor Cashman, 2019

HONORS and AWARDS

- *The Herald*, Top Lawyer of Long Island Award, 2023
- *National Law Journal* "Best Of" survey, Top Three Mediator in the United States, 2015-2024
- *New York Law Journal* "Best Of" survey, Top Ten – Best Individual Mediator Category, 2014-2023

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

- L'Abbate, Balkan, Colavita & Contini, L.L.P.,
 - Senior Counsel, 2021
 - Co-Managing Partner, 2002
 - Senior Partner, 1999
 - Partner, 1990
 - Associate, 1985
- Associate, Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman & Dicker, 1982-1985

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES and ADMISSIONS

- United States District Court, Western District of New York, 2015
- United States District Court, Northern District of New York, 2009
- United States District Court, Eastern District of New York, 1989
- United States District Court, Southern District of New York, 1984
- Courts of the State of New York, 1983
- FLSA Mediation Training, Eastern District of New York
- United States District Court, Eastern District of New York, Certified Mediator
- United States District Court, Eastern District of New York, Mediation Panel
- United States Bankruptcy Court, Eastern District of New York, Mediation Panel

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS and ASSOCIATIONS

- Member, New York State Bar Association
- Member, Nassau County Bar Association

EDUCATION

- New York Law School, J.D., *magna cum laude*
- Saint Peter's College, B.A., *magna cum laude*