

HON. LARRY S. SCHACHNER

Justice, Supreme Court of the State of New York, Bronx County (Ret.)

Having served on the bench for nearly 20 years, the Honorable Larry S. Schachner (Ret.) has developed an impeccable reputation for his judicial temperament, integrity, and superior settlement skills. He presided over a multitude of cases throughout his time on the bench, including civil rights, contractual construction, construction defect, landlord-tenant, municipal liability, and personal injury matters. As a Hearing Officer for NAM, Judge Schachner has heard a wide range of cases including auto accidents, construction, insurance claims, premises liability, negligence, medical malpractice, dental malpractice, and labor law matters.

Judge Schachner's substantial experience in mediating cases involving construction has provided him with a valuable understanding of the fundamental issues. He has mediated hundreds of New York Labor Law matters that included an underlying personal injury claim. Many of these cases included multiple defendants and insurance carriers, as well as construction defects or injuries due to construction. To reach a settlement, a mediator must understand the different trades involved, the work performed, and how the insurance coverage applies to the facts of the case. If these issues among the insurers and defendants cannot be resolved, the case will be unable to be settled. Judge Schachner's significant experience with these crucial issues is a key factor in his successful resolution of claims.

Judge Schachner has heard a variety of construction-related matters, such as the mediation of a construction defect case involving multiple parties concerning a commercial property, which settled for six figures in 2019. In 2021, he mediated a contractual construction matter with a construction company alleging breach of contract against a homeowner refusing to pay for home improvements, which included multiple change orders, wherein he was able to successfully settle the matter in favor of the plaintiff for a five-figure settlement. Additionally, Judge Schachner handled a two-party mediation that involved a breach of a construction contract and included change orders on a multimillion-dollar residential property.

Judge Schachner's judicial career began in 1999 when he was appointed Housing Court Judge of the Civil Court. There, he presided over New York City residential landlord-tenant cases, which included non-payments, holdovers, and proceedings involving enforcement of the Multiple Dwelling Law and Housing Maintenance Code. Four years later, Judge Schachner was elected to the Civil Court, where he oversaw a myriad of civil litigation, including negligence, medical malpractice, contracts, commercial landlord-tenant disputes, consumer credit transactions, and small claims matters. Thereafter, he served as a trial judge in the IAS Part, where he adjudicated personal injury actions and issued countless decisions on pending motions.

In 2007, Judge Schachner was appointed Acting Justice of the Supreme Court by the Chief Administrative Judge, Jonathan Lippman, where he presided over the City Part in Bronx County managing an inventory of over 5,000 tort cases. In 2014, Judge Schachner was elected Justice of the Supreme Court where he was assigned to the Special Trial Part in Bronx County. For six years, Judge Schachner was responsible for supervising and handling cases involving the NYC Transit Authority, MTA, and MABSTOA matters, which included motor vehicle, labor law, construction, and train accident cases, and has handled insurance coverage cases involving contractors and subcontractors. He has been rated “Highly Qualified” by the New York State Independent Judicial Election Qualification Commission.

Judge Schachner has also acted as a Special Master to supervise discovery and rule on discovery issues in complex litigation cases. His experience on the bench has given him a broad range of knowledge in numerous practice areas, including employment law, maritime law/Jones Act, medical malpractice, municipal liability, and personal injury, including construction, labor law, negligence, premises liability, and product liability, as well as real estate and tort matters.

Judge Schachner was voted a Top Ten Arbitrator in 2025 and 2026 and a Top Ten Mediator in 2024 by the respondents in the *New York Law Journal* "Best Of" survey. Judge Schachner was also named a *National Law Journal* Alternative Dispute Resolution Champion, as part of a select group of only 46 nationwide. He is a zealous proponent of Alternative Dispute Resolution. Judge Schachner's ability to approach matters fairly and in an unbiased manner, combined with his even temperament, makes him extremely well suited to the role of arbitrator and mediator and an excellent choice for both plaintiff and defense counsel.

Judge Schachner is available to arbitrate and mediate cases throughout the New York Metro area.

AREAS of EXPERIENCE

- Civil Rights
- Construction
- Construction Defect
- Consumer Law
- Dental Malpractice
- Employment
  - Employment Discrimination
  - Employment Litigation
  - Harassment
  - Labor Law/Labor Relations
- Maritime Law & Admiralty Law
- Medical Malpractice
- Negligence/Torts
- Personal Injury
  - Premises Liability
  - Product Liability
- Real Estate Law

LECTURES and PUBLICATIONS

- Author, *Your Mediation Didn't Resolve. What's Next?,* NAM (National Arbitration and Mediation), 2023
- Speaker, Inside the Mind of a Mediator: Avoiding Impasse and Maximizing Outcomes in Mediation, Bronx County Bar Association, 2022
- Author, *Utilizing A Special Master/Referee in Complex Litigation: A Mediator's Personal Account*, New York Law Journal Alternative Dispute Resolution Special Report, 2022
- Author, *The Future of ADR, Post-Covid: Personal Musings From a Neutral*, New York Law Journal, 2020
- Author, *Virtual ADR is Here to Stay,* Law.com, 2020
- Speaker, *Our New Reality – Virtual ADR is Here and Ready to Assist Attorneys in Resolving Disputes,* Law.com, 2020
- Author, *Critical Decisions at Mediation: Should a Client Attend? Should the Claims Rep Be Present?* New York Law Journal, 2019
- Speaker, *Alternative Dispute Resolution in Personal Injury & Civil Litigation, New York State Bar Association*, 2018
- Speaker, *Alternative Dispute Resolution: A Guide to Mediation and Best Practices and Tips for Mediation*, Ahmuty, Demers & McManus, 2017

HONORS and AWARDS

- *New York Law Journal* "Best Of" survey, Best Individual Mediator Category
  - Top Ten, 2020, 2023, 2024
- *New York Law Journal* "Best Of" survey, Best Individual Arbitrator Category
  - Top Ten, 2018, 2019, 2025, 2026
- *National Law Journal*, Alternative Dispute Resolution Champion, 2018
- President's Awards, Bronx County Bar Association, 2015
- Judge of the Year, Civil Courts Committee of the Bronx County Bar Association, 2010

JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE

- Justice of the Supreme Court, State of New York, Bronx, 2014 - 2017
- Acting Justice of the Supreme Court, State of New York, Bronx, 2007 - 2013
- Judge, New York Civil Court, Bronx, 2004 - 2013
- Judge, New York City Civil Court, Housing, Bronx, 1999 - 2003

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

- Principal Law Clerk to New York State Supreme Court Justice, Howard Silver, 1990 - 1999
- Staff Attorney, Housing Litigation Bureau Department of Housing Preservation and Development, 1987 - 1990
- Assistant Counsel, Office of the Bronx Borough President, 1985 - 1987

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES and ADMISSIONS

- New York State Bar, 1986
- United States District Court, Southern District of New York, 1988
- United States District Court, Eastern District of New York, 1988

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS and ASSOCIATIONS

- Association of Supreme Court Justices
- Bronx Bar Association
- New York State Bar

EDUCATION

- New York Law School, J.D. *cum laude*
- Columbia University, B.A.