



JAMES W. BORKOWSKI, ESQ.

Hearing Officer

James W. Borkowski's distinguished career spans more than 30 years with a practice focused primarily on litigation at the trial and appellate levels in both the state and federal court systems. He has successfully represented insurance carriers, corporations and individuals in personal injury, construction, labor law, litigation, general liability, premises liability, property damage, automobile and commercial litigation (both plaintiff and defendant). Mr. Borkowski is well-known within the New York Metro area legal community, having served as lead trial counsel for hundreds of cases in nearly every county, and in all five boroughs of New York City. As a litigator, he developed an affinity towards alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and counseled his broad clientele to consider this mechanism as a means towards finalizing time-consuming and costly litigation.

Prior to joining NAM, Mr. Borkowski served as Town Justice in the Town of Southeast, one of the busiest justice courts in New York State. In that role, for 11 years (1998 – 2009), he presided over jury and non-jury misdemeanor trials and facilitated the settlement of hundreds of civil and commercial cases.

Mr. Borkowski began his career in 1987 as an Assistant District Attorney for the County Court Trial Bureau for Nassau County, New York, where he litigated jury and non-jury trials, pre-trial hearings and presented cases before the Grand Jury for indictment. Subsequently, in the early nineties, he was an associate for a prominent New York City law firm, where he was an integral member of a special litigation team investigating liability theories for the Lockerbie Air Disaster (Flight 103). He also served as an attorney for the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) on personal injury defense cases and litigated commercial, aviation, insurance, foreclosure and municipal litigation matters for the firm.

A longtime advocate of alternative dispute resolution, Mr. Borkowski spent many years of his career negotiating settlements, addressing the interests and positions of all sides involved, and litigating claims and appeals in the court system, among other administrative bodies. His experience in conflict resolution has enabled him to acquire and hone the skills necessary to be an effective mediator and arbitrator. His extensive experience representing both plaintiffs and defendants allows him to see lawsuits from all perspectives – a vantage point that enables him to serve all parties in the ADR process. Mr. Borkowski is well-respected professionally by both sides of the bar and can draw upon his many years of experience when mediating and arbitrating in the private dispute resolution forum.

Mr. Borkowski has an "AV-Distinguished" rating from Martindale – Hubbell, a distinction given only to those who possess the "highest level of professional excellence" in legal ability and legal ethics.

James Borkowski, Esq. is available to arbitrate and mediate cases throughout the New York Metro area.

AREAS of EXPERIENCE

- Automobile
- Commercial
- Construction
- General Liability
- Labor Law
- Litigation
- Municipal Law
- Personal Injury
- Premises Liability
- Property Damage

LECTURES and PUBLICATIONS

- Panel Member, Webinar: *Resolving Coverage Disputes in Mediation*, presented to the New York State Academy of Trial Lawyers, 2020
- Speaker, Webinar: *Tips and Techniques for Ensuring Impactful and Successful Virtual Mediations*, presented to United Educators, 2020
- Speaker, Webinar: *The Benefits of Early Mediation: The Path Least Taken Requires Commitment*, Law.com, 2020
- Author, *Video Mediations: The Future of Alternative Dispute Resolution*, New York Law Journal, 2020
- Panel Member, *Inside the Mind of a Mediator: Avoiding Impasse and Maximizing Outcomes in Mediations*, presented to the New York City Bar, 2020
- Certified Criminal Justice Instructor, Westchester County Police Academy

HONORS and AWARDS

- “AV-Distinguished” rating, Martindale- Hubbell

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

- Of Counsel, Keane & Beane, P.C., 2003 – Present
- Town Justice, Town of Southeast, 1998 – 2009
- Of Counsel, Bleakley Platt & Schmidt, (Litigation Department), 1998 – 2003
- Partner, Stephens Hogan Rossi & Borkowski, 1994 – 1998
- Associate, Windels, Marx, Davies & Ives (Litigation Department), 1989 – 1994
- Assistant District Attorney, Nassau County, 1987 - 1989

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES and ADMISSIONS

- New York State Bar, 1988
- United States Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, 1991
- United States Supreme Court, 1995
- United States District Court, Northern, Southern and Eastern Districts of New York

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS and ASSOCIATIONS

- New York State Magistrates Association
- Putnam County Magistrates Association, Past President
- New York State Bar Association
- Westchester County Bar Association
- Participant, The Hudson River Swim for Life across the Hudson River

EDUCATION

- Boston University School of Law, J.D., 1987
 - Associate Editor, Commentaries legal book review journal
- State University of New York at Albany, B.A., *magna cum laude*, 1984
 - Phi Alpha Theta, History Honor Society