



## COLLEEN BYERS, ESQ.

Complex Commercial, Employment, Professional Liability, Trusts and Estates, Personal Injury

A seasoned civil litigator with extensive business and legal experience, Colleen Byers, Esq., now primarily focuses on mediating in the areas of complex business litigation, commercial and employment, professional liability, and trust, estate, and fiduciary litigation to help companies, families, and individuals solve their complex legal problems outside the courtroom. Ms. Byers conflict resolution approach weaves together practical business insight, active listening, and strategic foresight. She leverages more than a decade of litigation experience to help people, whether business owners or families, settle legal disputes quickly, effectively, and creatively.

As an active mediator with a client-centered approach, Ms. Byers challenges parties to explore options and guides them to have productive conversations that lead to resolution. Her ability to translate complex legal issues into clear and understandable concepts resonates with even the most emotionally volatile parties. Her empathetic approach puts clients at ease during an otherwise stressful time.

Ms. Byers training as a trauma-informed, registered yoga teacher also influences her unique mediation style. Applying yoga and mindfulness principles to her mediation practice, she effectively de-escalates conflict and guides parties to expand their perspectives and achieve settlement outcomes. Her role as a mother, wife, and community leader also provides her with ample opportunity to practice her conflict resolution and communication skills.

In addition to mediation, Ms. Byers regularly speaks and facilitates workshops and trainings on effective communication skills, negotiation techniques, emotional intelligence (EQ), empathy, and mindfulness. She guides lawyers and law firm leaders to skillfully navigate difficult conversations to improve business relationships, enhance culture, and drive operational performance.

## AREAS of EXPERIENCE

- Complex Commercial
- Employment
- Fiduciary
- Trusts and Estates
- Personal Injury
- Professional Liability

## REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission (DRC),
  - Certified Superior Court Mediator
  - Certified Estate, Guardianship, And Special Proceedings Mediator
  - Certified Family Financial Mediator
- Trained In Civil Collaborative Law
- Trained In Insight Mediation

## LECTURES and PUBLICATIONS

- Speaker, *4 Mediation Strategies to Tackle Conflict in Your Business*, Winston Salem Chamber of Commerce, 2018

## HONORS and AWARDS

- Lawyer Of the Year, North Carolina Lawyers Weekly, 2020
- Best Lawyers in America, 2020
- North Carolina Super Lawyers, Rising Star, 2016-2018
- Business North Carolina Magazine Legal Elite, Young Guns, 2016-2018

## LEGAL EXPERIENCE

- Attorney & Mediator, Bell, Davis & Pitt, P.A., 2008-2021
- Research Assistant, University of Nebraska Medical Center, 2008
- Business Intern, InfoUSA, 2007
- Law Clerk, Walentine O'Toole McQuillan & Gordon, 2006
- Intern, United States Probation Office, District of Nebraska, 2005

## PROFESSIONAL LICENSES and ADMISSIONS

- North Carolina State Bar
- United States District Court, Western District of North Carolina
- United States District Court, Middle District of North Carolina
- United States District Court, Eastern District of North Carolina

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS and ASSOCIATIONS

- Board Of Directors, Forsyth Humane Society
- Vice President, NC Civil Collaborative Law Association, 2020 – Present
- North Carolina Bar Association Dispute Resolution Section Council
- Global Collaborative Law Council
- North Carolina BarCARES
- Yoga Alliance Registered Yoga Teacher

## EDUCATION

- Creighton University School of Law, J.D.
- Creighton University, MBA, Business Administration
- Creighton University, B.A.