



STEPHEN G. BLITCH, ESQ.
Mediator • Arbitrator • Discovery Referee

A trial lawyer for more than 32 years, Mr. Blitch emphasized business litigation, personal injury (including product liability, mass torts and medical malpractice), class actions, construction, real estate, financial services and environmental litigation. He tried many significant jury and court trials in state and federal courts throughout California and in other states, in both state and federal courts.

He has lectured often on the subjects of trial evidence, trial practice, ethics and civility, and has taught for the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA). He is a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and an associate in the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA). He is also listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* (2004-2010 for personal injury and commercial litigation, including Oakland Trial Lawyer of the Year in Bet-the-Company Litigation for 2009), Northern California *Superlawyers* (2004-2010), and the International Who's Who of Product Liability Lawyers (2000-2010).

Mediation and Arbitration Experience and Training

- Mediator, Settlement Commissioner, Judicial Arbitrator, Early Settlement Panelist and Early Neutral Evaluator for Alameda County, San Francisco County and Contra Costa County Superior Courts, and the United States District Court for the Northern District of California
- Trained by Alameda, San Francisco and Contra Costa County Superior Courts, the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, and Harvard Law School in arbitration, mediation and neutral evaluation

Legal Experience

2003 Reed Smith

1977 Crosby Heafey Roach & May (combined with Reed Smith in 2003)

Education

2000 Certification, Harvard Law School, Program of Instruction for Lawyers in Mediation

1977 M.C.P., University of California, Berkeley, City and Regional Planning

1976 J.D., University of California, Berkeley (Boalt Hall)

1972 A.B., University of California, Berkeley, Architecture

Recent Publications

California Trial Objections, California Continuing Education of the Bar (2004, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009)

Book Chapter, Ch. 21 *Relevance*, Jefferson's *California Evidence Benchbook*, California Continuing Education of the Bar (2009)

Professional Affiliations

Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers
American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA)
Association of Business Trial Lawyers (former member, Board of Governors, San Francisco BayArea Chapter)
Alameda County Bar Association: co-founder and former Chair, Trial Practice Section; Past Chair, Judicial Candidates Evaluation Committee; former member, Board of Directors
State Bar of California, member, Litigation Section
Bar Association of San Francisco

Honors and Recognitions

Best Lawyers in America, Commercial Litigation and Personal Injury Litigation, 2004-2010
Lawyer of the Year in Oakland for Bet-the-Company Litigation, 2009
Super Lawyers, Corporate Counsel Edition, Business Litigation, 2004-2010

Court Admissions

California State Courts
U.S. Court of Federal Claims
U.S. District Court - Central District of California
U.S. District Court - Northern District of California
U.S. District Court - Southern District of California
U.S. District Court - Eastern District of California