

## Linda A. Michler, Esquire

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[www.professionaldisputeresolution.com](http://www.professionaldisputeresolution.com)

With over 25 years of experience in ADR matters, I have the experience of serving both as an arbitrator / mediator / early neutral evaluator/consultant and in my former law practice, as trial attorney and counsel to parties in mediation and arbitration matters. I have handled hundreds of successful disputes. This along

with my past litigation experience allows me the opportunity to fully comprehend the parties' positions and interests. I also provide nation-wide consulting and training services regarding alternative dispute resolution. I have served as an expert witness on cases. I have arbitrated and mediated cases of all complexities including those involving corporate, consumer, multiple parties, multiple issues and substantial damages. I have served as sole arbitrator, co-arbitrator, chairperson, mediator, sole mediator, and co-mediator.

In addition to once maintaining an active private law practice, representing primarily financial institutions and small businesses, I have served as Assistant District Counsel, Special Assistant United

### Bar Admissions

North Carolina  
New York  
Pennsylvania

States Attorney with the US Small Business Administration (SBA), and have been a long-standing leader in professional

organizations and an advisor in alternative dispute resolution, as a teacher, presenter and author. I have been in-house counsel for a global data and risk management software company.

### Court Admissions

U.S. Supreme Court  
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit  
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania  
U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania  
U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania  
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina

**My substantial experience consistently reveals my style in simplifying the complex. I believe that parties in a dispute make a tough and final decision as to what to do with their dispute when they use alternative dispute resolution to provide an opportunity where the parties, counsel, insurance carriers and anyone else with a direct interest can use a confidential setting to discuss the interests and needs, obligations and rights of the parties. The setting can be in person, video conference or teleconference. Most cases settle. A trial does not provide this opportunity.**

### Alternative Dispute Resolution Member

- International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution (CPR)
- CPR Distinguished Neutral – Banking and Finance, and Franchise Panels
- The National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals
- Nextlaw Global Referral Network
- American Arbitration Association
- American Health Lawyers Association
- Association of Attorney - Mediators
- Better Business Bureau
- Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA)
- North Carolina Dispute Resolution Commission
- DRC Certified Mediator Superior Court
- VirtualCourthouse.com
- Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania
- US District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania
- US Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania

## **REPRESENTATIVE ADR MATTERS**

I have litigated, mediated, arbitrated thousands of cases involving varied issues, including:

Accounting	Disaster Programs	Multi-National Business Fraud
Acquisitions	EEOC	Non-profit Organizations
Airport Construction	Executive Employee Issues	Partnerships
Automobile	Estate Resolution	Real Estate
Bankruptcy	Financial Transactions	Reduction in Force
Breach of Contract	Freedom of Information Act Requests	Regulated Industries
Commercial Contracts	Information Technology	Regulatory Compliance
Commercial Credit	Infrastructure Projects	Securities
Compensation	Insurance	Shareholders
Consumer Class Action	Intellectual Property	Small Business Loans
Consumer Credit	Investments	Software Licensing
Consumer Transactions	Lemon Law Disputes	Title Issues
Contractor/Subcontractor	License Agreements	Unemployment
Copyright/Infringement	Medical	Workplace Conflict

## **LAW BACKGROUND**

Successfully owning and managing my own law firm, I ran the diverse activities of managing attorneys and administrative personnel. My firm represented creditors, secured and unsecured, in commercial and consumer credit ranging from mortgages, UCC, auto, boat, and mobile home collateral.

Counseled clients on all levels of administrative, state and federal courts, including the federal bankruptcy court and state court receiverships, and regulatory compliance in connection with business matters and real estate. Clients included financial institutions, servicers, and professional and small businesses, and included regulatory compliance issues, commercial and consumer real estate, acquisition financing and asset-based lending and expansion.

Assisted a Chapter 7 Trustee in his work administering the Estate of a multi-national business and its divisions, and serving as expert witness, where the principals eventually served sentences for fraud and incomplete reporting.

Approved title attorney for a title company.

Lead counsel in litigation at trial and all appellate stages, with several reported decisions. Matters ranged from basic financing disputes to complex financial transactions, involving alleged false claims and statements, fraud, conflicts of interest, and other misconduct.

## **EDUCATION**

B.S. Science, Minor Psychology, University of Pittsburgh  
J.D., Duquesne University School of Law

## **SELECTED HONORS, AWARDS, PUBLICATIONS, AND/OR PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS**

- American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section, Advanced Mediator Training, When Emotions ARE the Issue, Webinar, July 2019 (Presenter)
- Association of Attorney – Mediators, Truce or Consequences, April 2019 (Presenter)
- ABA Arbitration Section Newsletter, ADR Humor or Horror Stories, May 2018 (Author)
- Pennsylvania Council of Mediators – Alternative Dispute Resolution – A Forgotten Resource After Natural Disasters, Newsletter, November 2017 (Author)
- Association of Attorney – Mediators, The Good, the Bad, and the Uninformed, September 2017 (Author and Presenter)
- Woman’s Bar Association of Western PA, ADR Neutral Disclosures, May 2017 (Author and Presenter)
- American Bar Association, ABA Dispute Resolution Section Annual Meeting, Will Your ADR Neutral Disclosures Meet Party Expectations? Perceived Associations and Social Media: Guidelines, Disclosure Differences, Requirements, Opinions – Are They Enough? April 2017 (Author and Presenter)
- ABA Dispute Resolution Section Newsletter, I Knew You Were Trouble – Real Estate and ADR, July 2015 (Author)
- National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals, (NADN), Inducted 2019, Panelist
- International Institute for Conflict Prevention & Resolution - Panel of Distinguished Neutrals, Member Arbitration Committee, Mediation Committee, Banking and Finance Committee
- American Arbitration Association appointed mediator for the NC Disaster Program
- American Bar Association Dispute Resolution Section, Women in Dispute Resolution National Chair for Regional Co-Chairs and Regional Co-Chair (Mid – Atlantic Region)
- American Bar Association Dispute Resolution Section, Arbitration Committee, Chair – Publication Subcommittee Publications/Editor, Chair of the Cybersecurity Taskforce.
- American Bar Association Dispute Resolution Ethics Committee Member
- Member, Dentons NextLaw Referral Network
- United States Bankruptcy Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania – Mediation Panel Member, Special Advisor to the initial Mediation Rules Subcommittee
- Special Assistant US Attorney, Assistant District Counsel, Pittsburgh Office, US Small Business Administration, 1991-1997
- Federal Bar Association’s Alternative Dispute Resolution Section – Past VP, Western PA Chapter
- Financial Women’s International – Past President of Western Pennsylvania Chapter, 2001
- Southwinds Incorporated – Past Board Member, Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee
- Family Services of Western Pennsylvania – Past Board of Trustees Member
- MS Society – Employment and business hotline volunteer
- SCORE Mentor, Outer Banks Chapter
- Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation - Mentor