



Hon. James A. Shapiro, ret.

## Resolute Systems, LLC

MEDIATION, ARBITRATION & DISPUTE RESOLUTION

### Hon. James A. Shapiro, ret. Chicago, Illinois

Judge Shapiro concentrates his ADR practice on the resolution of personal injury, employment and commercial disputes, as well as civil liability matters stemming from white-collar criminal activity. While sitting as a Circuit Judge, he frequently resolved pending litigation through the pre-trial mediation process.

Judge Shapiro's unique experience as a civil litigator, circuit judge and Assistant United States Attorney instills confidence in the mediation process for the cases he handles. Before starting his judicial career, Judge Shapiro had extensive experience litigating civil and criminal matters in the private and public sectors. As a U.S. Attorney, he prosecuted and defended a myriad of civil and criminal matters, including civil liability, employment litigation and appeals. His private litigation practice included commercial, employment and personal injury matters.

#### Representative Cases

- Personal Injury
- Wrongful Termination
- Sexual Harassment
- Race Discrimination
- Americans with Disabilities Act
- Property Damage
- Business/Partnership Dissolutions
- Professional Malpractice
- White-Collar Criminal Civil Liability
- Sexual Orientation Discrimination
- Age Discrimination and Employment Act

#### Professional Experience

- 2012-present** **Principal**, Law Offices of James A. Shapiro. Mediation, Arbitration, Neutral Evaluation. Civil and white-collar criminal litigation.
- 2007-2012** **Circuit Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County.** Heard both criminal and civil cases, including felonies, misdemeanors, commercial and tort litigation, and landlord/tenant disputes. Rated "Highly Qualified" by Chicago Bar Association.
- 2006-2007** **Managing Partner, Shapiro & Brindley, Chicago, Illinois.** State and federal criminal litigation. Voted Illinois "Super Lawyer," 2007. Member, Federal Defender Panel and Chicago Bar Association In-Court Bar Attorney program.
- 2000-2006** **Partner, Shapiro & Schwartz, Chicago, Illinois.** State and federal criminal litigation, employment discrimination, commercial litigation, personal injury, civil and criminal appeals.
- 1998-2000** **Of Counsel, Applegate Valauskas Rosen & Bernstein, Chicago, Illinois.** Criminal and commercial litigation, employment discrimination, personal injury, civil and criminal appeals.
- 1996-1998** **Principal, Law Offices of James A. Shapiro.** Commercial litigation, white-collar criminal litigation, personal injury, civil and criminal appeals.
- 1989-1995** **Assistant United States Attorney, Chicago, Illinois.** Civil and Criminal Divisions. Wide variety of criminal and civil prosecutions and civil defense, including white-collar crime, drug forfeiture, employment discrimination, and federal appeals. Briefed, argued, and won cross-burning appeal that created circuit split.
- 1988-1989** **Associate, D'Ancona & Pflaum, Chicago, Illinois.** Commercial and employment litigation.
- 1985-1988** **Associate, Hinshaw, Culbertson, Moelmann, Hoban & Fuller.** Insurance defense and employment litigation.

## Quasi-Judicial Experience:

- 1996-2007**      **Hearing Board Officer (Chair, 1998-2007)**, Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission.  
Presided over attorney disciplinary hearings, including high-profile cases such as In re Miriam Santos and Associate Judge bribery case.
- 1997-2007**      **Chair-Qualified Arbitrator**, Cook County Mandatory Arbitration. Chaired hundreds of arbitrations in personal injury, Magnuson-Moss (“lemon law”), property damage, and contract cases.

## Teaching Experience:

- 2003-2009**      **Adjunct Professor**, John Marshall Law School. Federal Courts class. Coached numerous moot court teams, including 2010 National Championship.
- 1995-1998**      **Adjunct Instructor**, Loyola University School of Law, Legal Writing Program.
- 1993-2003**      **Guest lecturer**, Negotiations seminar (taught Federal Plea Negotiations), Chicago-Kent School of Law
- Summer 1999**   **Lecturer on American Criminal Justice Issues**, German-American Institutes in Freiburg, Tübingen, and Heidelberg, Germany.
- 1996-2006**      **Foreign Language Tutor and Substitute Teacher** (Spanish, French, German), LaSalle Language Academy, Chicago, Illinois.

## Publications:

- 2010**            **“Plea and Sentencing”** (co-author with Hon. Stuart Katz) and “Criminal Practitioners Beware,” Chaps. 9 and 19, IICLE Criminal Practice Handbook.
- 2010**            **Lead Casenote, Renico v. Lett**, Illinois State Bar Association Criminal Justice Section newsletter
- 2008**            **“Comity of Errors: When Federal Sentencing Guidelines Ignore State Law Decriminalizing Sentences,”**  
41 Akron L. Rev. 231 (2008).
- 1996**            **Co-Author, “Sentencing Illegal Aliens Convicted of Illegal Reentry After Deportation:  
A Proposal for Simplified and Principled Sentencing,”** 8 Fed. Sent. Rptr. 264.
- 1995**            **Co-Author, “Federal Sentences for Aliens Convicted of Illegal Reentry following Deportation:  
Who Needs the Aggravation?”** 9 Geo. Immigr. L.J. 451
- 1992**            **“Choice of Law Under the Federal Tort Claims Act: Richards and Renvoi Revisited,”** 70 N.C. L. Rev. 641

## Education:

- J.D. 1985**      **William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia.**  
Honors: Order of the Barrister.  
Best Oralist and First Place Team, William and Mary Federal Courts Moot Court Tournament State Scholar
- A.B. 1981**      **Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut.** Double major, History and Philosophy.

## Other Professional Activities and Experience:

- 1998**            **Expert Witness, Omega Wrecking Co. v. Elgin State Bank**, 94 CH 7452 (Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois).

## Foreign Languages:

Proficient Spanish and German, moderate French.

## Bar Association and Other Memberships:

- Alliance of Illinois Judges (Director, 2010-present)
- Chicago Bar Association (In-Court Bar committee, former Chair, Lawyer Referral Committee)
- Chicago Council of Lawyers
- Decalogue Society of Lawyers (President, 2007-08)
- Illinois Judges Association
- Jewish Judges Association
- West Suburban Bar Association
- Women’s Bar Association of Illinois
- Chicago-Lincoln Inn of Court