

  
**Resolute Systems, LLC**  
**Dispute Resolution Worldwide**

**HONORABLE JAMES E. SULLIVAN, ret.**  
**Chicago, Illinois**

## EXPERIENCE

Hon. James E. Sullivan (Ret.), a fifteen-year veteran of the Cook County Circuit Court Law Division, left the Cook County Circuit Court bench in 2014 after being recalled by the Illinois Supreme Court in 2011. While on the bench, he again served in the Law Division, presiding over cases involving catastrophic personal injury, product liability and medical/legal negligence. Additionally, Judge Sullivan was assigned to hear multi-party and complex Commercial Calendar cases and settled a series of national class action matters relating to a widely used blood thinning medication.



Judge Sullivan has successfully conducted hundreds of mediations in matters such as medical/legal negligence claims; large multi-party product liability cases; class action suits; complex business disputes and construction disputes. Judge Sullivan is a certified Mediator in the Chancery and Law Division Mediation Programs and served on the committees that developed those programs. He is also an Arbitrator with the recently inaugurated Cook County Commercial Calendar Mandatory Arbitration Program.

Available for appointment as: Arbitrator; Mediator; Facilitator in Discovery Disputes

## AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- **Commercial:** Contract and other disputes, including asset purchase agreements, right to compete clauses, automobile manufacturing, alleged breach of fiduciary duty, quantum meruit disputes, telecommunications and partnership agreements
- **Construction:** Disputes involving construction defects and development, contracts and insurance coverage issues
- **Employment:** Disputes involving age/sex discrimination claims, interpretation of executive severance clauses
- **Intellectual Property:** Disputes involving alleged trademark infringement, copyright, and patent and royalty claims
- **Professional Liability:** Attorney malpractice claims alleging breaches of fiduciary duty, misappropriation of client funds and conflicts of interest
- **Securities:** Disputes involving sales of brokerage businesses
- **Surety:** Claims involving insurance coverage, liability and reinsurance
- **Tort:** Hundreds of claims involving all manner of personal injuries, including automobile, premises, wrongful death, catastrophic injuries, construction site accidents and medical negligence claims

## **ARBITRATIONS**

- Chair of a tri-party panel arbitrating a construction dispute at a public stadium
- Resolved a claim brought by two retro-fitting companies against a major automotive manufacturer for a design plan that led to hundreds of consumer complaints
- Adjudicated claims in *Pigford v. U.S. Department of Agriculture*, a civil rights action based on alleged historical discrimination involving over 20,000 claims of African American farmers
- Employment cases involving executive termination and contract/severance disputes, Title VII claims, sex and age discrimination
- Insurance coverage dispute involving a large hospital and insurance companies regarding malfunctioning equipment
- Legal malpractice claims involving partnership agreements and corporate by-laws
- Partnership dispute involving the development of an industrial park

## **MEDIATIONS**

- A Certified Mediator in the Chancery and Law Division Programs.
- Served as a mediator in over 2,000 matters, including complex commercial matters and family business disputes, employment claims, medical and legal negligence cases, attorney fee disputes and class action matters.
- Arbitrator for Cook County Commercial Calendar Mandatory Arbitration Program.

## **COMMISSIONER OF REAL ESTATE**

- On more than twenty occasions, Judge Sullivan has been appointed to inspect parcels of real estate and determine if these properties may be sold pursuant to the partition statute

## **MEMBERSHIPS AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

- Member of the American Bar Association, Illinois State Bar Association, Chicago Bar Association; serving on ADR committees and Tort Committees
- Board Member of the Resolution Systems Institute, 2012 to present
- Judicial Liaison, Elder Law & Miscellaneous Remedies Division of the Circuit Court of Cook County, 2012 to present
- Member of the Nation Association of Federal Equity Receivers (NAFER)
- Arbitrator for Cook County Commercial Calendar Mandatory Arbitration Program

## **RECENT PRESENTATIONS**

- *Civil Trial in Focus*, the Illinois Judicial Education Conference, 2014
- *As Judges See It, Top Mistakes Attorneys Make in Civil Litigation*, National Business Institute, 2014

- *The Judicial Perspective on Trying a Product Liability Case from Pre-Trial Issues, Pleadings and Motion Practice to the Trial Phase and Settlement*, American Conference Institute, Chemical Products Liability and Environmental Litigation, 2014
- Lectured on Negotiation and Mediation, National Institute for Trial Advocacy
- Frequent Lecturer at the Law Division Mediation Program Seminars and local area associations' programs

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- *Assessing Electronic Discovery's Often Unintended Consequences*, Chicago Daily Law Bulletin, March 16, 2015
- *A Litigator's Guide to Mediation*, Illinois Bar Journal, 2006
- *Motions In Limine*, Illinois Bar Journal

## **GUARDIAN AD LITEM**

- Appointed in numerous cases to protect the interests of the disabled, minors and unknown or unborn descendants.

## **EDUCATION**

- University of Notre Dame, B.A.
- University of Illinois, J.D

To schedule with Judge Sullivan, please contact Mike Weinzierl at [mweinzierl@resolutesystems.com](mailto:mweinzierl@resolutesystems.com) or 312.346.3770, ext. 125