

HONORABLE JOHN FLEMING, ret.
Chicago, Illinois



Judge Jack Fleming brings his extensive judicial mediation experience in the Cook County Probate Division to his private mediation practice. After a distinguished career as a jurist, Judge Fleming retired from the bench in 2018 to pursue a career in private mediation, arbitration, discovery referee and fact finding.

During his judicial career, Judge Fleming successfully conducted mediation negotiations in hundreds of cases in civil and criminal matters. In the Probate Division, he was sought after by lawyers and their clients to mediate pending litigation, including in cases that were not on his call. He completed mediation training at the National Judicial College.

While Judge Fleming has extensive experience mediating all facets of probate matters, including estate, trust and guardianship issues, he is also qualified to mediate contract, commercial, business and other civil matters.

Judicial Experience

Cook County Circuit Court Probate Division: January, 2010-January, 2018

- Presided over Adult Guardianship, Decedent's Estates, and the Mediation calendars.
- Ruled on dispositive motions, conducted contested hearings, and will/trust contests.
- Successfully resolved 80% of cases referred to mediation by utilizing a combination of facilitative and evaluative methods.

Criminal Division: July, 2000-January, 2010

- Presided over felony trial calendar, decided pretrial motions, ruled on constitutional issues, and conducted hundreds of criminal trials including over 25 jury trials and hundreds of bench trials.
- Successfully conducted hundreds of pre-trial conferences leading to felony dispositions.
- Managed a high volume narcotics court room disposing of in excess of 2000 cases per year.

Municipal Division: December, 1996-July, 2000

- Conducted felony preliminary and bond hearings, presiding over 60+ hearings daily.
- Decided numerous traffic and misdemeanor trials.

City of Chicago Administrative Law Judge:

- City of Chicago Departments of Personnel and Revenue: June, 1994-December, 1994
- Conducted personnel disciplinary and discharge hearings, parking and vehicle tax enforcement.

Professional Experience

City of Chicago: Director of Administrative Adjudication: January, 1995-December, 1996

- Directed city wide municipal violation adjudication program and managed office and support staff.
- Supervised, trained and retained 12 attorneys who served as Administrative Law Judges.
- Provided budget recommendations and advice on ordinance enforcement to the Commissioner of Streets & Sanitation.

Deputy General Attorney Chicago Park District: May, 1991-May, 1994

- Supervised all Chicago Park District federal and state litigation, including defense of civil rights violations, personal injury claims, mechanics liens, worker's compensation matters, and prosecution of Park District contract and property damage claims.
- Assigned caseloads to litigation staff and retained and supervised outside counsel.
- Responsible for training and hiring of litigation staff of six attorneys.
- Reviewed, evaluated and approved all settlement recommendations.
- Prepared budget recommendations and implemented changes in worker's compensation procedures that led to cost reduction.

Assistant Cook County State's Attorney: May, 1983-May, 1991

- Successfully prepared and prosecuted hundreds of felony and misdemeanor trials including 25 jury trials.
- Successfully litigated pre-trial evidentiary, constitutional and dispositive motions.
- Participated in numerous pre-trial conferences that resulted in pleas of guilty.
- Reviewed, investigated and approved or declined police department requests to file felony complaints.

Chicago Park District, Special Assistant/ Assistant General Attorney: May, 1981-May, 1983

- Successfully defended Park District in federal employment discrimination bench trial.
- Liaison to outside defense counsel on discovery requests.

Education & Training

- Juris Doctor (JD): De Paul College of Law - Chicago, IL
- Bachelor of Arts (BA): Marquette University - Milwaukee, WI
- National Judicial College Financial Statements In The Courtroom (2017)
- National Judicial College Advanced Civil Mediation (2012)
- National Judicial College Comprehensive Civil Mediation (2010)

Publications/Lectures

- Panelist, "Illinois Dead-Man's Act" Circuit Court of Cook County Seminar Series, December 2013

To schedule mediation or arbitration with Judge Fleming, please contact Mike Weinzierl at mweinzierl@resolutesystems.com or 312.346.3770, x125