

RESOLUTE

DISPUTE RESOLUTION NATIONWIDE

JAMES J. KNIBBS, ESQ.

Chicago, IL



James Knibbs has practiced law since 1985, and brings a broad array of civil litigation experience on behalf of plaintiffs and defendants to his work in alternative dispute resolution. Mr. Knibbs draws on his experience in representing plaintiffs and defendants, and is adept at understanding the factual and legal strengths and weaknesses of a case. Mr. Knibbs has a reasonable, judicial, temperament and a keen insight into the needs and interests of the parties and counsel, which has proven an asset in successfully resolving cases as a neutral at mediation, and as an arbitrator.

As an advocate, Mr. Knibbs has represented plaintiffs and defendants in several areas of law, including breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, commercial litigation, personal injury and wrongful death, insurance coverage, large loss subrogation, Title VII, 28 U.S.C.A. 1983, defamation, professional negligence, and employment cases. During his time as a litigator, attorney colleagues began to ask him to serve as a mediator. This prompted Mr. Knibbs to add serving as a mediator to his litigation practice.

Mr. Knibbs has been a partner at several Chicago law firms, and previously served as one of the top prosecutors with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, heading the Public Corruption and Financial Crimes Unit. Mr. Knibbs has also been appointed as a Special Assistant State's Attorney several times, representing Cook County elected officials and agencies in state and federal court. Mr. Knibbs has also conducted independent investigations on behalf of *Fortune 100* companies, educational institutions and governmental entities.

To schedule mediation with Mr. Knibbs, please call 312.346.3770, ext. 125 or email mweinzierl@resolutesystems.com

Law Firm and Public Service Experience

- Cook County State's Attorney's Office
- Clausen Miller P.C.
- Ellison Nielsen Knibbs Zehe & Antas P.C.
- Meckler Bulger Tilson Marick & Pearson
- James Knibbs, Attorney at Law
- McNabola Law Group
- Foran Glennon Palandech Ponzi & Rudloff

Teaching and Bar Service

Mr. Knibbs was an Adjunct Faculty Instructor for several years at Loyola University (Chicago) School of Law, teaching Trial Advocacy I and Trial Advocacy II. Mr. Knibbs previously served as an Instructor for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy (NITA) Midwest Winter Session, and regularly serves as a judge and evaluator for law school mock trial and moot court competitions tournaments.

Mr. Knibbs serves as an Arbitrator for the Cook County Arbitration Program Law Division-Commercial Section cases, and Law Division personal injury cases, as well as Municipal Division cases. Mr. Knibbs previously served as a panel member for the American Arbitration Association for UIM arbitrations.

Mr. Knibbs is a member of the Chicago Bar Association, and served on the C.B.A. Judicial Evaluation Committee for over a decade. In addition, Mr. Knibbs served as co-chair and instructor for the Chicago Bar Association *Federal Trial Bar Training Course*, and presently serves on several Chicago Bar Association committees.

Admissions

Mr. Knibbs is authorized to practice law in Illinois, and in the U.S.D.C.- N.D Illinois (including Trial Bar), and the U.S.C.A. Seventh Circuit, and previously practiced in the U.S.D.C. for the Central District of Illinois, and Northern District of Indiana. Mr. Knibbs has been admitted *pro hac vice* in several states, and tried cases in Michigan and Ohio, in addition to trials in state and federal courts in Illinois.

Alternative Dispute Resolution Training

Mr. Knibbs received a Certificate for completing Northwestern University's *Mediation Skills Training Program*, and earned a certificate of completion for the Chicago Bar Association *Advanced Workshop for Improved Negotiation and Mediation Skills: Sophisticated Strategies for In-Person and Virtual Mediation*, and completed the Chicago Bar Association *Mediation Simulation Workshop*.

Honors and Awards

Mr. Knibbs has a Martindale-Hubbell AV Distinguished® peer rating, indicating a high ranking in legal ability and ethical standards as determined by his peers in the legal community.

Mr. Knibbs has been named a *Leading Lawyer* for several years, a peer-recommended distinction awarded to fewer than 5% of attorneys in Illinois, including 2024. In addition, Mr. Knibbs has also been received an Illinois *Super Lawyers* designation for several years, including 2024. Mr. Knibbs has been recognized as a *Top Lawyer* in Illinois by *Chicago Lawyer*, and was recognized by the *National Association of Distinguished Counsel*.

Publications & Presentations

- “Inside the Minds: Emerging Trends in White-Collar Crime,” *Thomson Reuters/Aspartore*, 2010
- “Lessons Learned From Dick Devine,” *The Chicago Daily Law Bulletin*, March 3, 2014.

Education

Mr. Knibbs earned his B.S. degree in Business and Administration from Southern Illinois University in 1982 and his J.D. degree “With Honors” from Chicago Kent College of Law in 1985.

Non-Legal Experience and Personal

Mr. Knibbs has served as a Board Member for the Southwest Beverly Improvement Association, co-founder and speaker for the “Choices and Decisions” program at Chicago Public Schools and Chicago area private schools aimed at reducing teen gun violence, speaker numerous times at Morgan Park High School “career days;” volunteer with the Beverly Area Planning Association, volunteer with the Maple Morgan Park Food Pantry, parent volunteer at St. Ignatius, Mount Carmel and Mother McAuley High Schools, and as a swimming and water polo coach at Mount Carmel High School.

Mr. Knibbs and his wife, Leigh, live in Chicago and are the parents of four adult children and three grandchildren.