

Robert N. Phillips

Partner

Rob is a litigation and mediation partner at Reed Smith handling complex disputes and important business issues. Rob serves as a mediator for the California Court of Appeal, Sixth Judicial District, Marin County Superior Court, Alameda County Superior Court, International Trademark Association, and World Intellectual Property Organization.

Representative Mediations

- Breach of contract dispute between commercial bakery and ingredients supplier
- Commercial lease dispute between university lessor and technology company lessee
- Wrongful termination and wage and hour dispute between fire and water remediation employer and group of employees
- Constructive eviction dispute between residential lessor and lessee arising from mold infestation
- Breach of settlement agreement dispute between automobile dealership and lemon law law firm
- Negligence dispute between taxpayer and tax preparation company
- Trademark infringement dispute between competing internet dating websites
- Personal injury dispute between competitive cyclist and automobile driver
- Construction dispute between homeowner and homeowners association
- Private nuisance dispute between neighboring landowners
- Fraud/negligence dispute between patient and ophthalmology practice

Recommendations

"Rob's ability to step into a charged and procedurally complicated situation and set a tone for good-faith negotiations was impressive. "

"Rob bridged the gap between the parties, facilitating communication and understanding in a way that I found to be quite beneficial. His ability to navigate complex emotions and interests showed a depth of skill that I believe is crucial for effective mediation."

"Rob served as a mediator in a difficult to resolve California case. Before the mediation, Rob reviewed the submissions and got a firm grasp of the problems and sticking points, which made the entire process go smoothly. Our case had been in suit for more than two years, with a 'no offers and no interest in settlement' position by the defendant throughout. With that as the backdrop, Rob facilitated constructive conversations by the parties, reduced tensions and worked towards a mutually agreeable solution which neither party could have anticipated but were comfortable with at the end. Rob retained control of the room by employing a respectful, supportive approach and even went the extra distance days later when the defendant was not meeting its promised obligations."



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Education

University of San Francisco School of Law, 1985, J.D., magna cum laude
University of California, Berkeley, 1982, B.A., with high honors

Court Admissions

U.S. Court of Appeals - Federal Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals - Ninth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals - Second Circuit
U.S. District Court - Central District of California
U.S. District Court - District of Nebraska
U.S. District Court - District of Nevada
U.S. District Court - Eastern District of California
U.S. District Court - Middle District of Tennessee
U.S. District Court - Northern District of California
U.S. District Court - Northern District of Georgia
U.S. District Court - Southern District of California
U.S. District Court - Southern District of Florida
U.S. District Court - Southern District of New York