



Hon. Stuart T. Waldrip, Ret.



Results Beyond DisputeSM

Judge Waldrip began his legal career in the Trial Department of Rutan & Tucker, Orange County's largest local-based firm. He left as a senior partner to become General Counsel for a healthcare company. Shortly thereafter, he opened his own small firm, the Law Offices of Stuart T. Waldrip, APC. There, he was a successful business and professional liability litigator for 16 years before being appointed to the Orange County Superior Court in 1996. Before being appointed to the Court, Judge Waldrip served regularly for many years as a judge pro tempore, presiding over hundreds of settlement conferences and other judicial proceedings. During his career, he received many honors and awards, including being President of the Orange County Bar Association and receiving the Franklin G. West Award, its highest honor. In 1991 he was inducted as a Fellow of the prestigious American College of Trial Lawyers. With over 45 years of experience as a successful litigator and jurist, Judge Waldrip has a reputation as an even-tempered, fair-minded, very capable jurist with a talent for bringing opposing sides together. His final assignment before retiring from the Court was as a member of the elite Complex Civil Litigation Panel, which he helped organize. He presided over complex construction, insurance, class action, condemnation, business, intellectual property, and other large and difficult civil cases. Most of these cases were resolved by settlement with Judge Waldrip's help. Now, as one of the senior neutrals at Judicate West, he has a passion for helping others resolve their disputes with the patience, firmness, experience, and understanding that makes him the ideal neutral. As one prominent litigator, now a judge observed: "As a lawyer and a judge, Stu Waldrip was second to none in the respect he earned from his colleagues.... impeccable integrity, a keen intellect, a commanding presence, and a way with people that produces results." Another litigator and managing partner of a major law firm commented, after a successful mediation: "He couldn't have done a better job in a tough case, and I couldn't recommend him more highly."

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

- Neutral, Judicate West (2006-Present)
- Judge, Orange County Superior Court, General and Complex Civil (1996-2002)

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- J.D., University of Utah College of Law (1967)
- B.A., Stanford University, Economics (1961) Minor Engineering

PRACTICE AREAS

Business/Commercial, Construction, Employment, Environmental, Insurance, Intellectual Property, Probate, Professional Malpractice, Real Estate, Tort

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Inaugural recipient, Lifetime Achievement Award, Constitutional Rights Foundation of Orange County (2002)

INTERESTS

Golf, Skiing, Fly Fishing, Scuba Diving Speaks fluent Spanish and German

LOCATIONS

Orange County, All of California