

NEUTRAL AFFILIATION QUALIFICATIONS

We are honored and flattered by your interest in possibly serving on our panel. Please find below an outline of the background and criteria we will evaluate in considering your candidacy.

I. EDUCATION

B.A. or B.S. and J.D. with a minimum of 40 hours of Arbitration/Mediation training resulting in a certificate or degree from an accredited program

II. NEUTRAL/JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE

- A. Minimum of 2 years on the bench as a Judge, Commissioner or Federal Magistrate **or**
- B. A minimum of 25 combined years serving as Judge Pro Tem and/or Judicial Arbitrator/Mediator for the public courts

III. PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND/ADR TRAINING

- A. Must be an active member of the state bar and in good standing
- B. Should be a member of at least two legal and/or dispute resolution related organizations
- C. A history of leadership positions and/or as a respected active member/participant on teams, in firms and organizations
- D. A minimum of 15 years of diverse litigation experience and 40 hours of Arbitration/Mediation training
- E. A minimum of 5 years of dispute resolution experience **and** having heard at least 500 cases through the court program(s) and privately
- F. 3 years of experience as a private full time dispute resolution professional with a minimum of at least 250 paid private cases heard
- G. Maintain an existing client base with documented revenue
- H. Expertise in a true niche area or have high exposure in a remote geographic location plus 6 of the 8 labeled A-H

IV. REFERENCES

- A. Provide at least 15 references covering your range of cases heard as a neutral and broken down to include various civil practice areas involving both tort and business/commercial plaintiff and defense clients
- B. Judicate West neutrals and/or staff feedback (after shadowing at least two of your mediations in progress)

V. PRACTICE BUILDING

- A. Must be in an economic position and ready to commit your practice to full time neutral work within 2 years.
- B. Have a history of participating as a panel member for Rutter Group, CJER, Bar & Trial Lawyer Associations, and/or other CLE programs and/or dispute resolution programs and seminars plus have published a book or several articles pertaining to civil litigation and/or dispute resolution related issues
- C. Have a 5 year business plan on how to build and survive building a successful dispute resolution practice
- D. A mission statement as to why you changed your career to private dispute resolution plus clearly defined goals and objectives on how you will accomplish them
- E. Create a professional website dedicated to your dispute resolution career
- F. Continually obtain new knowledge, network and work hard on developing a niche area of expertise
- G. Become a recognized leader in a specialty or niche area in addition to 6 of the 7 above labeled A-G

VI. REMAINING AN ACTIVE PANELIST

- A. Retiring and remaining retired from the practice of law
- B. Neutrals are expected to handle or at least generate referrals to other JW Neutrals (due to lack of availability, i.e. health, travel, conflict, etc.) a minimum of 24 cases per year administered to by JW
- C. Failure to handle a minimum of 6 cases administered to by JW in consecutive years is considered an inactive status. As a result it may lead to at least a temporary de-listing from our panel.