



Hon. Jeffrey B. Barton, Ret.



Results Beyond Dispute™

Judge Barton brings more than four decades of experience as a trial lawyer, jurist, and neutral. Serving the San Diego Superior Court for over two decades, he presided over in excess of 200 jury and bench trials involving complex civil, family, and criminal matters. For 11 years he was an independent calendar civil judge, handling all aspects of civil litigation from filing through post-trial proceedings. In that role, he heard many of the court's largest and most sensitive cases and conducted more than 200 settlement conferences, developing a strong appreciation for efficient and effective dispute resolution in both civil and family law matters. Before joining the bench, Judge Barton practiced as a civil trial lawyer for more than 20 years, focusing on professional liability, medical malpractice, product liability, and general civil litigation. He tried numerous cases to verdict and was elected to membership in the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) in 1995. He has also been a sustaining member of Lawyers Club for nearly two decades. Judge Barton also held several leadership roles within the court, including Assistant Presiding Judge and Presiding Judge of the San Diego Superior Court. While serving as Presiding Judge, he was elected to chair the Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee, which serves as the voice of California's trial courts. He worked closely with court leadership to transition the civil and family law divisions to electronic filing and case management systems, enabling continued court operations during the COVID-19 pandemic. He was also closely involved in developing the court's discovery dispute resolution process and maintains a strong interest in the fair and efficient resolution of discovery issues. Since joining Judicate West in 2021, Judge Barton has devoted his practice to private dispute resolution and has managed a wide range of arbitration matters from case inception to final award. In arbitration, he draws on his experience as both a long-time trial judge and trial lawyer to provide a structured, practical approach to case management and decision-making. He is particularly attentive to discovery issues and procedural efficiency, with the goal of resolving matters in a timely and even-handed manner. Attorneys describe his demeanor as calm, thoughtful, and fair-minded. He is well respected in the San Diego legal community and is known for his careful consideration of the issues presented.

LEGAL CAREER & PRIOR EXPERIENCE

- Full-Time Neutral, Judicate West (2021-Present)
- Judge, San Diego Superior Court (April 2001-April 2021), Independent Calendar Civil Judge (2004-2012), Civil Supervising Judge (2007-2013), Assistant Presiding Judge (2014-2015), Presiding Judge (2016-2017), Trial Judge, Civil, Family and Criminal (2018- 2021)
- Partner, Lewis, D'Amato, Brisbois & Bisgaard (1990-2001)
- Partner, Jennings Engstrand & Henrikson (1985-1990)
- Associate, McInnis, Fitzgerald, Rees, Sharkey & McIntyre (1981-1985)

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- J.D., University of San Diego School of Law (1981)
- B.A., Magna Cum Laude, University of California, San Diego (1978)
- San Diego Law Review, Articles Editor (1981)
- San Diego Law Review, Member (1980-1981)
- Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee, Chair (2016-2017)
- Judicial Council of CA, Advisory Member (2016-2017)
- Revenue and Expenditure Subcommittee of the Trial Court Budget Advisory Committee, Co-Chair (2017-2020)
- San Diego Court Technology Committee, Chair (2007-2021)
- San Diego Court Civil Policy Committee, Chair (2007-2103)
- E-File and Imaging Governance Committee, Chair (2011-2015)
- California Judges Association, Board of Directors (2006-2009)

PRACTICE AREAS

- ADR Committee San Diego Superior Court, Co-Chair (2004-2007)
- Downtown Family Law, Site Supervising Judge (2003)
- American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), Member (1995 - Present)
- Enright Chapter American Inn of Court, Master (2017-2020)

ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

- AV/Preeminent rating with Martindale Hubbell
- E. vanSonnenberg, M.D., J.Barton, J.D. and G. Wittich, M.D. "Radiology and the Law with an Emphasis on Interventional Radiology," Radiology Vol. 187, No. 2 (May 1993)
- Jeffrey B. Barton, J.D. "Liability Risks of Capitated Managed Care," Neuropractice (Nov. 1995)
- Jeffrey B. Barton, J.D. "Limiting Liability Risks for Physicians from Capitated Managed Care," Neuropractice (January 1996)
- Jeffrey B. Barton, J.D. "Legal Implications of Physician Profiling," Neuropractice (July 1996)

HOBBIES & INTERESTS

Judge Barton enjoys surfing, cycling, circuit training, and camping.

LOCATIONS

San Diego, All of California