



Hon. Jeffrey B. Barton, Ret.



Results Beyond DisputeSM

With over two decades on the bench, Judge Barton has presided over more than 200 jury and bench trials involving civil, family, and criminal matters. During his 11 years as a civil independent calendar judge, he heard some of the largest and most sensitive cases in San Diego. He has held over 200 settlement conferences where he developed a passion and an appreciation for settling civil and family law cases. For over 20 years, Judge Barton was a civil trial lawyer with a practice specializing in professional liability, medical malpractice, product liability, and general civil matters. He was elected to the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) in 1995 and has been a sustaining member of Lawyers Club for almost 20 years. While the Presiding Judge of the Court, Judge Barton was elected by the 58 presiding judges in the State to serve as the chair of the Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee, which functions as the voice of the trial courts. He led the efforts with the court's executive team to transition the civil and family law divisions to an electronic filing and case management system, which helped the court provide legal services during the pandemic. Judge Barton was also closely involved in developing the discovery dispute resolution process adopted by the court during COVID and has a strong interest in resolving discovery issues. Attorneys who have appeared before Judge Barton describe his judicial temperament as being very calm and thoughtful in his approach. He is well respected by the San Diego Legal community and is known for being a fair-minded trier of fact by most who have appeared before him.

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)
- 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)

PRACTICE AREAS

Class Action Litigation ; Employment; Family Law; Medical Negligence; Personal Injury; Real Estate

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