



# Matt D'Abusco, Esq.



Results Beyond Dispute<sup>SM</sup>

Matt is an innovative and highly effective mediator who is committed to helping parties successfully resolve difficult, complex, and emotionally charged disputes. With his diverse background and experience both on the defense and plaintiff bar, Matt brings a unique approach to mediation, utilizing his ability to understand the positions of all parties to break impasses and find creative and practical solutions to settle disputes. Prior to his mediation practice, he was a seasoned litigator and subject matter expert in employment law, having spent his entire career handling individual, class, and complex disputes across the State of California including those focused on harassment, discrimination, retaliation, leaves of absence, wrongful termination, executive contracts, and wage and hour matters, including those arising under the California Private Attorneys General Act ("PAGA"). He began his career working for large defense firms where he represented businesses of all sizes ranging from small family-owned shops to Fortune 500 international corporations. He later founded and ran a boutique plaintiff's employment firm where he successfully represented hundreds of clients in individual, class, and complex cases. Whether pursuing claims on behalf of single minimum wage workers or Chief Executive Officers, he focused on understanding his clients and their objectives and worked tirelessly to get them results. Matt is devoted to understanding and bridging the gaps between the parties' distinct perspectives. This fuels his approach to mediation and has proven invaluable in helping parties achieve successful resolution of their disputes. One attorney stated, "He has a strong ability to bring the parties together and facilitate meaningful dialogue that leads to resolution. One of Matt's greatest strengths is that both defense and plaintiff counsel truly listen to him, which speaks volumes about his background, experience, and credibility. His practical insight and even-handed approach help move cases toward settlement in a thoughtful and efficient manner."

## LEGAL CAREER & PRIOR EXPERIENCE

- Full-time Mediator, Judicate West (2026-Present)
- Private Mediator, D'Abusco Mediation (2024- Present)
- Partner, Ares Law Group, P.C.; Employment Litigation (2015-2023)
- Attorney, Jackson Lewis, P.C.; Employment Litigation (2012-2015)
- Attorney, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo; Employment Litigation (2007-2012)

## EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- J.D., Chapman University School of Law (2004-2007)
- B.A., University of California, Irvine (2000-2004)
- 'Mediating the Litigated Case', Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine (2024)
- United States District Court, Central District of California - Volunteer Mediation Panel (2024 to Present)
- Los Angeles County Superior Court, Mediation Volunteer Panel (2024 to Present)
- Los Angeles County Superior Court, Resolve LA (2024 to Present)
- Riverside County Superior Court, Volunteer Mediation Panel (2024 to Present)

## PRACTICE AREAS

All types of Employment matters, including individual, class, and complex disputes involving Harassment, Discrimination, Retaliation, Wrongful Termination, and Wage and Hour

## ACHIEVEMENTS & AWARDS

- Legal Visionary, Los Angeles Times Business Studios (2023)
- Southern California Super Lawyer, Super Lawyers Magazine (2019-2026)
- Southern California Rising Star, Super Lawyers Magazine (2015-2017)

## HOBBIES & INTERESTS

Matt enjoys spending time with family, reading, weightlifting, and doing puzzles. He is an avid fan of the Dodgers, Rams, and Lakers.

## LOCATIONS

Orange County, Nationwide