

Bruce A. Blitman

Curriculum Vitae

E-mail: BABMediate@aol.com

EDUCATION

Florida Bar, May 17, 1982

Juris Doctor (JD), University of Miami School of Law, Coral Gables, FL (1981)

Bachelor of Arts, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL (1978)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE Law Offices of Bruce A. Blitman, Pembroke Pines, FL
Founder, Mediator, Arbitrator, Dispute Resolution Specialist, Mediation Trainer (1989-present)

- Sole Practitioner specializing in mediation of all kinds of Circuit, County and Family Disputes in state and federal courts
- Mediated thousands of court-appointed and stipulated cases throughout Florida involving complex and diverse disputes in many legal areas, such as:
 - Personal injury
 - Labor and Employment
 - Construction defects
 - Employment rights
 - Hurricane insurance matters
 - Real estate
 - HOA associations
 - Family disputes
 - Aviation
 - Mortgage foreclosures
 - Professional Malpractice
 - Disability rights
 - Housing rights
 - Civil rights
 - Business & Franchise Litigation
 - Education rights & Special accommodations
 - Commercial litigation & contracts
 - Admiralty

MEDIATION TRAINER

Approved (by the Office of the State Courts Administrator for Florida) as a primary trainer in certified circuit civil mediation training programs for many years. Current approval runs through October 9, 2016, subject to renewal thereafter. During the last 20 years, have trained hundreds of attorneys, judges and others who have aspired to become mediators and dispute resolvers

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Florida Bar (1982 to present)
- Broward County Bar Association (1987 to present)
- Palm Beach County Bar Association (2017 to present)
- Florida Academy of Professional Mediators, Inc.; Diplomate Member (1989 to present)
- Florida Supreme Court Certified Circuit Civil and County Court Mediator (February 1989 to present)

- Florida Supreme Court Certified Family Mediator (February 1990 to present)
- Florida Qualified Arbitrator (1989 to present)
- Seminole Tribe of Florida Bar Association (2016 to present)

ARBITRATION PANELS

Qualified Florida Arbitrator for Miami-Dade County (11th Judicial Circuit of Florida) and Broward County (17th Judicial Circuit of Florida) (1989 to present)

MEDIATION PANELS

- American Arbitration Association Roster of Mediators (2014 to present)
- Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Program for Broward County (2010-2013)
- Residential Mortgage Foreclosure Mediation Program for Miami-Dade County (2010-2013)
- Florida Department of Financial Services (DFS) Roster of Mediators to help hurricane victims resolve insurance claims (2004-2011)
- Florida Department of Financial Services (DFS) Roster of Mediators to help resolve other insurance claims (2004-present)
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court for Southern District of Florida Roster of Mediators for Loss Mitigation Mediation (LMM) Program and newly established Mortgage Modification Mediation (MMM) Program (2013 to present)
- Federal Mediator on Rosters of Mediators for U.S. District Courts for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida (1990 to present)
- Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) Contract Mediator for Miami Area Office Alternative Dispute Resolution Program (1999-2009)
- United States Postal Service REDRESS Program (1999-2010)

SPECIAL MASTER/SPECIAL MAGISTRATE FOR CODE ENFORCEMENT HEARINGS

- Town of Surfside (2012-2014)
- City of South Miami (2010-2013)
- City of Miami Beach (1993-1997)

AWARDS, CERTIFICATIONS AND HONORS

- Justice Teaching Volunteer of The Year 2017; Presented at Florida Bar Annual Convention, June 22, 2017 (by Law Related Education Committee)
- Award of Merit: Highest distinction bestowed by The Florida Academy of Professional Mediators, Inc. to an individual who has made “significant contributions to the mediation profession in the state of Florida.” (2002)
- Award of Appreciation: Presented by Florida Dispute Resolution Center (DRC) for seven years of dedicated service as Vice Chair and Founding Member of Mediator Ethics Advisory Committee (2001)
- Kiwanian of the Year: Presented by the Kiwanis Club of Cooper City, a service leadership organization, for dedicated community service during club’s first year (2007)

- Outstanding Service Award: Broward County Bar Association (2001-2002)

PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

- **Leadership**
- **Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution Skills**
- **Microsoft Word**
- **Publishing Articles and Newsletters Consistently**
- **Public Speaking**
- **Tolerant and flexible under various stressful interpersonal situations**
- **Teaching**
- **Attention to Detail**

ADR TELEVISION SERIES

The Florida Academy of Professional Mediators, Inc. Presents The ABC's of ADR: An Introduction To Mediation, Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution (1998)

- Created, produced and hosted a twelve-part television series which aired on Miami Dade County community access television network which reached audience of 500,000 households. Series featured interviews with judges, lawyers, mediators and community leaders to raise public awareness about different conflict resolution processes and available community services and resources

PROFESSIONAL ARTICLES AND PUBLICATIONS

- “Mediation in Florida: The Newly Emerging Case Law;” Florida Bar Journal, October 1996 Selected as a finalist for Barbara Sanders Memorial Award for Legal Writing by Florida Bar Journal Editorial Board
- “Your Business and the ADA: An Introduction to Title III of the Americans With Disabilities Act;” Co-authored with Andrew E. Colsky; Florida Bar Journal, 1996
- “The Mediation Advantage;” Business to Business Newspaper, September 1997
- “Florida’s Ethics Advisory Committee Breaks New Ground;” Dispute Resolution Magazine, Spring 2001 (published by the American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution)
- “Dealing With Discrimination? Consider Mediating ADA Disputes; MSFOCUS Magazine, Spring 2002 (published by Multiple Sclerosis Foundation)
- “Building Your Practice One Satisfied Client at a Time;” The Florida Bar News, May 1, 2002 and Lawyers Weekly USA, July 8, 2002
- “10 Ingredients For An Effective Mediation;” ADR Currents: The Newsletter of Dispute Resolution Law and Practice, June-August 2002 (published by the American Arbitration Association)
- “Conflict Resolution Techniques: Dealing With Debtors, Creditors, Clients And Other Adversaries or When The Check Really Isn’t In The Mail;” The Commercial Law Bulletin, July/August 2002 (published by Commercial Law League of America)

- “Visioning and Coaching Techniques in Mediation;” Co-authored with Professor Jeanne D. Maes; The Dispute Resolution Journal, May/July 2004 (Published by the American Arbitration Association)
- “Using Collaborative Modeling to Mediate Workplace Conflicts;” Co-authored with Professors Jeanne D. Maes, Arthur Jeffery and Robert A. Shearer; Equal Opportunities International, Volume 22, Number 5, 2003)
- “Ten Tips to Increase Your Edge in a Competitive Marketplace;” ACRResolution, Spring 2006 (Published by the Association for Conflict Resolvers (ACR))
- “The Power of Active Listening;” Co-authored with Brian Schriener, Ph.D.; The Florida Bar News, November 1, 2006
- “If We Knew Then What We Know Now: Twelve Mediation Lessons We Learned the Hard Way;” Co-authored with Carline Emanuel, John A. Henneberger, A. Michelle Jernigan and David J. Kaufman; ADR New & Tips; Fall 2011 Inaugural Issue (e-newsletter published by ADR Section of The Florida Bar in December 2011)
- “Sorry Works! Offers Chance to Break Med-Mal Gridlock in Florida;” Co-authored with Doug Wojcieszak, James W. Saxton and Maggie M. Finkelstein; Florida Bar Health Law Section e-newsletter, Winter 2013 (as well as in Florida Bar ADR Section’s e-newsletter, ADR News & Tips)
- “Tips for Managing the Mega-Mediation;” Co-authored with David R. Carlisle; Dispute Resolution Journal, Winter 2012, Volume 67 Number 4-distributed in June, 2013; Also reprinted in Professional Mediation Institute (PMI) quarterly e-newsletter, Fall 2013
- “12 Things to Consider Before Buying a Franchise;” Co-authored with Stephen M. Feidelman; The Franchise Handbook, Fall 2013; An abbreviated version, “5 Things To Consider Before Buying A Franchise” was published in The Miami Herald, Business Monday, August 5, 2013
- “Ten Cornerstones for Effective Mediation Advocacy;” Co-authored with A. Michelle Jernigan, Claims magazine, February and March, 2014 issues; Also published in Professional Mediation Institute e-newsletter, July 2014 and Florida Bar ADR Section’s e-newsletter, ADR New & Tips, September 2014 □ “Conflict Resolution: Work Through It;” Florida Realtor, September 2014
- “Ten Tips for Successful Business Negotiation;” Smart Business Florida magazine, online publication, Fall 2014 issue available on November 4, 2014
- “Health Benefits of Pet Ownership,” Published in Broward County Bar Association’s Barrister Magazine, September 2015
- “Practical Tips for Mediating Employment Disputes,” Co-authored with Kimberly Gilmour, Esq. Published in BCBA Barrister August and September 2016
- “Warning Signs of Mental Illness,” Co-authored with Sandra Cumper. Published in BCBA Barrister Magazine, September 2017
- “Mental Health and Lawyers: Some Resources That Can Help.” Published in Daily Business Review for Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties, November 6, 2017 (“Opinions and Commentary” Column)

- “Five Conflict-Handling Modes to Resolve Issues,” Published in BCBA Barrister, June 2015
- “Insight Policing-A Creative Approach to Building Bridges Between Police and the Communities They Serve.” Co-Authored with Megan Price, PhD. Published in Dispute Resolution Journal, Volume 71, Issue 3, Pages 75-83, December, 2016