



Mediation Panel List
Mediator Spotlight
April 2024

Under Section 3.2 of the Court's Mandatory Mediation Plan, the parties are generally able to select their own mediator from the Court-approved Mediation Panel List (unless the Court has ordered otherwise, or the parties cannot agree upon a mediator).

To help inform the parties of the unique backgrounds, experiences, training, and qualifications of the over 100 mediators on the Court-approved Mediation Panel List, each month the Court will select and highlight two mediators at random to feature in this publication.

Eric C. Peterson
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Hourly Mediation/Preparation Rates: \$450

Nature of Practice/Areas of Specialization:

General commercial litigation, collections, owner disputes, lender litigation, bankruptcy, turnarounds, workouts, and receivership.

Background: Eric was born in Bakersfield, California and grew up in Orange County, California. Since then, he has lived in Boston, Baltimore, Washington D.C., San Francisco, and Los Angeles. He and his family relocated to St. Louis approximately fifteen (15) years ago. He has four children and lives in Kirkwood, Missouri.

Education: Boston University School of Law, (J.D., 1998); Washington University, Olin School of Business (M.B.A., 2016).

Work History: Since 1998, Eric has practiced in the field of commercial litigation, with substantial experience in turnarounds, workouts, bankruptcy, and receivership. His practice is primarily in Missouri, but he has represented or continues to represent clients on a national basis. He is admitted to practice law in Missouri, Washington D.C., California and Maryland. He received mediator training

through the American Bankruptcy Institute. He is however new to practicing as a mediator. He is a former chair of the Missouri Bar Bankruptcy Creditor, and Debtor Rights committee and of the Subcommittee on Commercial Receivership. He speaks regularly on topics involving insolvency law and has published numerous articles in various publications. Additional information on Eric's background can be found at <https://www.spencerfane.com/professionals/eric-c-peterson/>.

Outside The Office: Eric's interests include spending time with his family. He attends Kirkwood Road Christian Church in Kirkwood, Missouri.

Jerome A. Diekemper

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Hourly Mediation/Preparation Rates: \$450 per hour, which includes preparation and travel.

Nature of Practice/Areas of Specialization:

Mr. Diekemper worked for the NLRB at the Region 14 Office in St. Louis for one year as a field examiner and then field attorney. He then went into private practice in September 1972 representing unions and individuals for 34 years. He has been mediating cases since October 1993. He has mediated more than 1800 cases, with about two-thirds being labor/employment disputes. The remaining have been ERISA, legal and medical malpractice, personal injury, civil rights, business, and contract disputes. Some cases involved multiple plaintiffs and/or defendants. He has also arbitrated over 200 cases.

Background: Mr. Diekemper was born in Washington D.C. He came to St. Louis in 1952, growing up in Florissant, MO.

Education: Mr. Diekemper received his B.A. degree in Political Science from St. Louis University in 1968, and his J.D. degree from St. Louis University Law School in 1971. While at the Law School, he was a member of the Law

Journal. He is licensed to practice law in the state of Missouri and is admitted to practice in the Eastern District of Missouri federal court, the 8th Circuit and Federal Circuit Court of Appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court.

Work History: Mr. Diekemper became a partner in the firm of Bartley, Goffstein, Bollato and Lange. He founded his own firm of Diekemper, Hammond and Shinnars in 1979 where he tried civil lawsuits for both plaintiffs and defendants. He has also tried 250 arbitrations as an advocate. In 2006, he resigned from his firm to start Jerome A. Diekemper LLC to practice as a neutral.

Professional Achievements: Mr. Diekemper has made presentations and delivered papers to many groups including ABA Labor and Employment Committee meetings, MoBar CLE programs, and local bar associations. He has also written chapters for MoBar CLE handbooks. He is a member of mediation panels for the Eastern District of Missouri, the Southern District of Illinois, various Circuit Courts in Missouri, and the American Arbitration Association. Mr. Diekemper has been recognized by Best Lawyers in America in every edition since 1983, and by Super Lawyers of Missouri/Kansas, and as one of the 50 top lawyers in St. Louis. After becoming a full-time neutral, he has been listed as a Super Lawyer in the fields of mediation and arbitration.

Outside the Office: Mr. Diekemper maintains an active interest in his seven grandchildren. He enjoys watching the Cardinals and Billiken and Celtics basketball.