



Mediation Panel List Mediator Spotlight Winter 2026

Under Section 3.2 of the Court's 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 quarter the Court will select and highlight two mediators at random to feature in this publication.

Demitrus T. Evans, Esq.

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708-531-1740 (Office)

Hourly Mediation/Preparation Rates: \$300 (M) \$ 350 (P)

Areas of Specialization: Intellectual Property, Corporate Law, Business Contracts, International Trade Compliance, Dispute Resolution

Background: Demitrus Evans JD, LLM is an Ohio native who currently resides in Illinois with her family.

Education: University of Miami School of Law, J.D.; University of Illinois (formally John Marshall Law School), LL.M. in International Trade with a concentration on Finance; Denison University, B.A. in English Literature and African Studies (dual degree); Entrepreneurial Studies, The Joseph School of Business.

Work History: Attorney Evan is the Managing Attorney for The Evans International Law Firms, LLC ("TEIL Firms") which originated in Westchester, Illinois, in 2009. Attorney Evans also arbitrates for Cook County Courts. In 2011, she founded The Evans Exoneration Project ("TEEP") to assist the indigent in state and federal criminal law.

As an adjunct professor at Joseph School of Business, Forest Park, Illinois, she teaches business law and advocates for international trade and expansion on several business-focused boards.

Professional Achievements: Attorney Evans is licensed in the Illinois Appellate Court, The United States District Court for the Central, Western, and Northern District Courts. She was sworn in the United States Supreme Court, the Federal Circuit, and the International Court of Trade in 2010 and had experience practicing law in areas other than Intellectual Property and Business, including Criminal and Employment Discrimination.

Attorney Evans and TEIL Firms have received several awards, including Global Entrepreneur of the Year, Diversity MBA Magazine's Top 100 Executives under 50, and won a nomination for Nesbit's Global Award.

Personal Achievements: In 2026, Attorney Evans will enter her 3rd year as Global Chamber-Chicago Chair, 2nd year as US Commerce Appointee to the Illinois District Export Counsel, 2nd year in service as a Commissioner for Westchester's Sustainability Commission, and she has been named as a 2026 Super Lawyer. In her free time, she devotes herself to the field of education. Attorney Evans served on the Board of Trustees for Westchester Public Library for four years, two years as the President. She has also been a devoted Deputy Administrator for Foundations Ministry at the Living Word Christian Center in Forest Park, Illinois, for almost nine years. As a volunteer for Foundations Ministry, Attorney Evans provides leadership and guidance on the operations of Christian Foundation classrooms, and helps maintain excellence for the optimal student experience, as well as answers questions regarding the Foundations. However, she is most proud of being a wife, mother of two children, marathoner, and dog lover.

Kevin J. Stine
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Hourly Mediation/Preparation Rates: \$300

Nature of Practice/Areas of Specialization: Commercial General Litigation (business entity disputes, secured transactions, collections, banking law, probate litigation, covenants not to compete).

Education: Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville, BSBA, 1983; Washington University, J.D., 1986.

Work History: Upon graduating from law school, Mr. Stine was a law clerk to Judge Gerald Smith, Missouri Court of Appeals (1987); an associate at Suelthaus & Kaplan, P.C. (1988-90); an associate at Thompson & Coburn (1990-93); and as an associate and then a partner at Mathis, Marifian, Richter and Grandy, Ltd. (1993-2016). In 2016, Mr. Stine became General Counsel for First Co Bancorp, Inc. and FCB Banks.

Areas of Practice: Mr. Stine's litigation practice has been widespread, including business entity disputes, covenants not to compete, banking law, bankruptcy law, secured transactions, collection law and probate litigation.

Professional Associations: Mr. Stine taught Secured Transactions and Advanced Secured Transactions at Saint Louis University School of Law and Legal Issues for Managers at McKendree University's MBA program. He has served as a member of the Illinois State Bar Association sections: Bench and Bar; Commercial Banking, Collections, and Bankruptcy; Corporate Law Departments; and Standing Committee on Law Office Management and Economics.

Professional Achievements: Mr. Stine has been recognized as a Leading Lawyer in the State of Illinois and has held the Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent rating. He was awarded "Boss of the Year" by the St. Clair County Professional Association. Mr. Stine was appointed by then Justice Lloyd Karmeier to serve on the Illinois Supreme Court's special committee formed to study and improve the judicial process in mortgage foreclosures throughout Illinois.

Court Admissions: Illinois; Missouri; U.S. District Court, Central and Southern Districts of Illinois; U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit; U.S. Supreme Court.