

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Application for Mediators

Please complete the entire application, using additional paper if necessary. You may also attach a resume.

Name: NEIL D. THOMSON, ESQ.

Firm or Office Name: FORD WALLACE THOMSON LLC

Office Address: 715 KING ST. CHARLESTON, SC 29403

Office Phone: 843-628-1414 Office Fax: 843-614-6416

E-mail Address: neil.thomson@fordwallace.com

ADMISSIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

Date admitted to the Bar of the District of South Carolina: 2004 I.D. No.: 9386

Date admitted to the South Carolina Bar: 2003 Bar No.: 71209

Other courts or jurisdictions to which admitted (with dates of admission and bar nos.):

US Court of Appeals, 4th Cir (2008)
US Court of Federal Claims (2017)

Membership and positions held in bar, ADR and professional associations:

Are you a member in good standing in each jurisdiction where admitted to practice law? yes no

Have you, within the last five years, been publicly reprimanded or publicly disciplined for professional conduct?
 yes no

Have you, within the last five years, been denied admission to a bar for character or ethical reasons, or been disbarred/suspended from the practice of law? yes no

EDUCATION

Year law degree received 2003 Law School UNIV. OF SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL OF LAW

Other professional degrees received (including year and school):
B.A. UNIV. OF VIRGINIA (1997)

LEGAL EXPERIENCE (A minimum of five years of law practice required)

Summarize legal experience (including teaching) since admission to the bar, particularly in the past five years:

- see attached resume -

Percentage of practice in last 5 years representing plaintiff 25% or defense 75%

Percentage of Federal or State court practice in last 5 years: Federal 40% State 60%

Number of years engaged in active litigation: 17

SUBSTANTIVE EXPERIENCE

Indicate all substantive areas in which you have experience. Place a "1" by your strongest area(s) and a "2" by all other areas in which you have experience. (Do not rank beyond "1" and "2.") After any category you have marked, please identify any sub-areas of experience you have (e.g. "medical malpractice" after Personal Injury).

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| <u>2</u> Admiralty | <u>2</u> Security or Shareholders suits |
| <u> </u> Antitrust | <u> </u> Labor |
| <u>1</u> Contracts | <u> </u> ERISA |
| <u> </u> Environment | <u>2</u> Wrongful Termination |
| <u>2</u> Fraud or Civil RICO | <u>2</u> Civil Rights in Employment |
| <u>1</u> Insurance | <u> </u> Other Civil Rights |
| <u> </u> Miller Act | <u>2</u> Copyrights |
| <u>1</u> Personal Injury | <u>2</u> Patent |
| <u>1</u> Product Liability | <u>2</u> Trademark |
| <u> </u> Other (specify) | |

sub areas:
- medical malpractice
- derivative / shareholder lawsuits

Publications:

MEDIATION EXPERIENCE

Mediation experience (particularly in the subject matter categories above):

I HAVE PARTICIPATED IN SEVERAL DOZEN MEDIATIONS OVER THE PAST 15+ YEARS, ON BEHALF OF A PARTY. SINCE BECOMING CERTIFIED AS A CIVIL COURT MEDIATOR IN APRIL OF 2018, I HAVE CONDUCTED APPROXIMATELY 15 MEDIATIONS IN S.C. STATE + FEDERAL COURT ACTIONS (SEVERAL COUNTIES + DISTRICTS).

Other courts or organizations for whom you serve as a mediator (please note any certifications): S.C. COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Number of mediations conducted: APPROX 15

Number of other ADR sessions conducted: 1 ARBITRATION

MEDIATION AND OTHER ADR TRAINING

Course Provider	Course Content	Date	Place	No. of Hours
S.C. BAR	CIVIL COURT MEDIATION TRAINING PROGRAM	APR 26-30, 2018	COLUMBIA	40
S.C. BAR	USING ZOOM FOR ONLINE MEDIATIONS	APR 8, 2020	CHARLESTON	2

OTHER INFORMATION

Are you familiar with the statutes, rules and practice governing alternative dispute resolution in the District of South Carolina? yes no

Other relevant experience or skills or other information you would like considered in connection with this application:

DURING CURRENTLYS PANDEMIC, I HAVE INITIATED MULTIPLE "ZOOM" MEDIATIONS TO KEEP DOCKETS MOVING ALONG.

Cities in which you are available to conduct mediation:

Columbia Charleston Greenville Florence

Other: _____

Fees charged:

Hourly Rate: \$ 300 Minimum charge each mediation: \$ NO MIN.

How do you bill for travel? (explain): \$100/HR FOR TRAVEL TIME

I agree to: (1) Be subject to the Rules of Professional Conduct, Rule 407, South Carolina Appellate Court Rules; the Rules for Lawyer Disciplinary Enforcement, Rule 413, South Carolina Appellate Court Rules; and the Local Rules of the District Court; (2) Provide mediation to indigents without pay if ordered by the Court; (3) Notify the Alternative Dispute Resolution Program Director of any change in the above facts or otherwise in my ability to perform duties as a mediator; (4) Disclosure of information contained in this application to litigants and other members of the public.

I certify that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature: *Neil D Thy*
Applicant

Date: 5/6/20

Return completed application to:
Billie Goodman, Coordinator
Alternative Dispute Resolution Program
United States District Court
901 Richland Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Reviewed: *B Goodman*
ADR Program

Date: 5/13/20

Approved: s/ David C. Norton
U.S. District Judge

Date: 5/13/20

NEIL D. THOMSON

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EXPERIENCE

- 2013 – current **FORD WALLACE THOMSON LLC, CHARLESTON SC**
Partner (Litigation)
- Defend businesses and professionals in product liability, professional liability, personal injury; construction defect; and other expert-driven tort litigation
 - Certified Mediator
 - Martindale-Hubbell Preeminent Rating (2019); South Carolina *SuperLawyers* (2019)
- 2011 – 2013 **SMITH MOORE LEATHERWOOD LLP, CHARLESTON, SC**
Senior Associate (Litigation)
- Joined other select attorneys to open Charleston office for 170+ member regional (NC, SC, and GA) full-service law firm
- 2003 – 2011 **HAYNSWORTH SINKLER BOYD, P.A., CHARLESTON, SC**
Associate (Litigation)
- Defended physicians, pharmacies, drug & medical device manufacturers and other professionals in medical related negligence actions
 - DRI Steering Committee / Insurance Panel Counsel Chair

EDUCATION

- 2000 – 2003 **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL OF LAW, COLUMBIA, SC**
Juris Doctor, May 2003
- *South Carolina Law Review* (Editor); Phi Delta Phi; John Belton O’Neill Inn of Court
 - Certified coursework completed in International Arbitration and Mediation (Berlin, Germany, 2003)
- 1993 – 1997 **UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA**
Bachelor of Arts in History, May 1997
- Dean’s List (1997); Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society; Zeta Psi Fraternity (President); Eli Banana Ribbon Society
- 1989 – 1993 **WOODBERRY FOREST SCHOOL, WOODBERRY FOREST, VA**

ORGANIZATIONS

- **PONCE DE LEON INVITATIONAL** (Founder and Chairman 2003 – present)
- **WINGS FOR KIDS** (Current Member, Board of Directors)
- **FIRST TEE OF GREATER CHARLESTON** (Past Member, Board of Directors)
- **CHARLESTON LAWYERS CLUB** (President, 2008)