

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: THOMAS A. RUSSO

Firm or Office Name: Russo Resolutions, LLC.

Office Address:
202 S. Barrington Drive, Florence, S.C. 29501

Office Phone: (843) 799-1502 Office Fax: _____

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ADMISSIONS AND AFFILIATIONS

Date admitted to the Bar of the District of South Carolina: May 29, 1987. I.D. No.: _____

Date admitted to the South Carolina Bar: May 19, 1987 Bar No.: 9055

Other courts or jurisdictions to which admitted (with dates of admission and bar nos.):
United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Admitted May 26, 1987

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 1986 Law School University of South Carolina School of Law

Other professional degrees received (including year and school):

B.S. Degree in Secondary Education From Uni. of S.C. 1977

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:

Trial Lawyer in the Civil and Criminal Courts of South Carolina from 1987 till 2005 when I was elected to the S.C. Circuit Court Bench as a Circuit Court Trial Judge. While practicing law I practiced in the Civil Courts representing both plaintiffs as well as defendants. I served both as a Public Defender as well as a prosecutor in the S.C. Criminal Courts. For the past 15 years I have served as a Circuit Court Judge until my retirement from the bench in July 2020

Percentage of practice in last 5 years representing plaintiff 0 % or defense 0 % (Served as Circuit Court Judge)

Percentage of Federal or State court practice in last 5 years: Federal 0 % State 0 % (Served as Circuit Court Judge)

Number of years engaged in active litigation: 18 yrs. as a trial lawyer and 15 yrs. as a trial judge.

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).

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

Publications:

MEDIATION EXPERIENCE

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

I have participated in numerous mediations as an attorney in my years of civil trial practice mainly in the areas of personal injury, products liability and medical malpractice. Since my retirement from the Bench I have served as a mediator in 10 S.C. State Court cases in civil court. I have recently passed the Certification standards to be certified as a mediator in the State Courts of S.C.

Other courts or organizations for whom you serve as a mediator (please note any certifications): S.C. Circuit Courts

Number of mediations conducted: 10 Number of other ADR sessions conducted: _____

MEDIATION AND OTHER ADR TRAINING

Course Provider	Course Content	Date	Place	No. of Hours
S.C. Bar CLE	Civil Court Mediation Certification Training	4/16-18 & 24-25, 2021	Zoom Teleconference	40 hours

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:

Other Than practicing Law as a civil practice trial Lawyer for over 12 yrs. I served as a Circuit Court Judge in the S.C. Circuit Court for 15 yrs. exposing me to a vast majority, if not all, types of civil litigation.

Cities in which you are available to conduct mediation:

Columbia

Charleston

Greenville

Florence

Other: _____

Fees charged:

Hourly Rate: \$ 325.00 Minimum charge each mediation: \$ I do not charge a minimum.

How do you bill for travel? (explain): 1/2 my mediation hourly rate both to and from the mediation site.

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: [Handwritten Signature]
Applicant

Date: April 26, 2021

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

Reviewed: [Handwritten Signature]
ADR Program

Date: 5/3/21

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

Date: 5/5/21