



SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

PROBATE MEDIATOR PROFILE

DISCLAIMER: THE INFORMATION CONTAINED WITHIN THIS MEDIATOR PROFILE HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE MEDIATOR. THE SAN DIEGO SUPERIOR COURT DOES NOT GUARANTEE OR WARRANT THE CONTENT OR ACCURACY OF THE INFORMATION, OR THE COMPETENCY OR QUALIFICATIONS OF THE MEDIATOR.

I. CONTACT INFORMATION:

Mediator Name: Steven H. Kruis, Esq.

Organization/Firm/Company: ADR Services, Inc.

Address: 225 Broadway, Suite 1400 City: San Diego, CA 92101

Telephone Number: 619.233.1323

Fax Number: 619.233.1324

Email/Website: skruis@adrservices.org / www.kruismediation.com

II. EDUCATION / SPECIALIZATION: Describe your relevant education and specialization(s) (specify the name(s) and location(s) of the institution(s) attended, the dates of attendance, and the specific degree(s) and/or certifications conferred):

Education/Specialization:

University of Notre Dame, B.A., Government and International Studies (cum laude, 1977); 1978-79 Rotary International Scholar, Notre Dame London Law Program, London, England; Notre Dame Law School, Juris Doctor (1980).

Probate, Trust, and Estate Planning Education, and Other Relevant Education:

See Probate Experience below.

III. PROBATE AND OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE: Describe your probate and other relevant experience (for each legal practice or employer, specify the relevant dates, practice/employer name and location, and the specific practice areas and/or types of relevant experience such as real estate or tax):

Since 1993, Mr. Kruis has mediated 2,000+ cases that include a substantial number of probate and trust disputes. He has been a full-time mediator since 2002, and is listed as one of the top San Diego mediators by Super Lawyers (San Diego edition) and Best Lawyers in America. He enjoys an "AV" rating from Martindale-Hubbell. A former managing partner of Higgs, Fletcher & Mack, one of San Diego's oldest and largest law firms, his probate experience and education began over twenty-five years ago when the estate planning attorneys at HFM requested him to litigate their contested probate and trust matters, and continues to this day as he mediates many such cases.

Last updated: January 1, 2018

IV. MEDIATION TRAINING: Describe your mediation training (specify the name(s) and location(s) of the training provider(s), the dates of the training(s), the number of hours of classroom training, experiential training, and specialized training):

Basic Mediator Training, San Diego Mediation Center (25 hour training program, 10 experimental hours, Oct. 22-24, 1992); Advanced Mediator Training, American Arbitration Association (7 classroom hours, 7 experimental hours, Sept. 30, Oct. 2, 1993); Advanced Mediator Training, National Academy of Conciliators (14 hours, Feb. 1, 1994).

V. MEDIATION EXPERIENCE / STYLE:

Number of probate mediations conducted: 100+

Number of other mediations conducted: 1,900+

Description of mediation experience and style:

Combination of evaluative and facilitative styles: Mr. Kruis fully explores the parties' underlying interests, needs, priorities, and emotional issues, as well as providing neutral impressions, to help lead the parties to settlement.

Additional ADR experience (e.g., experience as an arbitrator, settlement conference officer, neutral evaluator):

Since 1993, Mr. Kruis has served as an arbitrator, party-arbitrator, discovery referee, private mediator, court-appointed mediator, and special master in complex litigation in San Diego and Orange County Superior Court.

VI. MEDIATOR FEE INFORMATION:

Hourly rate: \$ 590 see below

Cancellation Policy:

If the mediation is canceled or postponed within 7 days for half-day matters, and 15 days for full day matters, of the scheduled date, the party requesting the cancellation or postponement is responsible for the entire deposit (not just the canceling party's share of the deposit), unless Mr. Kruis' time can be rescheduled.

Deposit Policy:

Each participant's share of the total amount due must be deposited within ten days after issuance of invoices in order to guarantee the reservation, unless the date is sooner, in which case the deposit is due immediately.

Additional Policies or Fees:

ADR Services, Inc. charges \$5,900 for full day matters (8.0 hours of conference time and 2.0 hours preparation time), and \$3,570 for half-day matters (5.0 hours of conference time and 1.5 hour preparation time). Extra time beyond the per diems is charged at \$590 per hour. In addition, ADR Services charges a \$195 administrative fee per party.

VII. LANGUAGE CAPABILITIES OF MEDIATOR:

English