

TOP RATED LAWYERS™

2016 EDITION

THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE TO LEGAL REPRESENTATION

The following section features attorneys who have demonstrated leadership qualities and have achieved the AV Preeminent rating by Martindale-Hubbell®.

Martindale-Hubbell®, the company that has long set the standard for lawyer ratings, has supplied ALM with a list of Top Rated Lawyers who have achieved an AV® Preeminent® Peer Review Rating, the highest rating in legal ability and ethical standards. To create this section, Martindale-Hubbell® tapped its comprehensive database of Martindale-Hubbell® Peer Review Ratings™ to identify lawyers who have been rated by their peers to be AV® Preeminent™.

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Lawyer Ratings

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION LAW

CALIFORNIA SAN FRANCISCO

CATHY YANNI

Cathy Yanni is a full time neutral at JAMS for more than 18 years and her practice includes mediation, arbitration, and Special Master/Settlement Allocation work. Cathy handles a wide variety of case types and specializes in pharmaceuticals/mass torts, class actions and multidistrict litigation (MDLs), employment, ERISA, and wage and hour cases, privacy/data breach matters, and business disputes.

In class actions and MDLs, she works with the parties and the court to design and implement a process ensuring each party's claims are resolved and settlement objectives are reached fairly and efficiently. In mediations, she is lauded for managing the pre-mediation process and post-mediation follow-up. She is flexible, persistent and her understanding of the law, coupled with her ability to relate to all parties, makes her an effective and sought-after mediator.



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MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON

KENNETH A. REICH

An experienced lawyer and litigator with extensive ADR experience

- served as a case evaluator and mediator in the Boston Municipal Court
- served on the commercial panel (appointed) of the American Arbitration Association (AAA)
- completed the 30 hour mediation training required by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the AAA training course for arbitrators
- represented clients in numbers of mediations, including complex multi-party environmental cases, across the country
- teaches a seminar on ADR at the Boston University School of School



Formerly the Assistant Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, U.S. Department of Justice, Mr. Reich was with a number of prominent law firms before forming his own firm in 2010 in order to provide his clients with high quality legal representation at more reasonable rates.

Mr. Reich has a Martindale-Hubbell rating of AV Preeminent® and is a member of the bars of Massachusetts, D.C., Montana (inactive status) and Maryland (inactive status). J.D. 1972 (cum laude), Harvard Law School; B.A., Cornell University.

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ANTHONY NOWAK

Tony has practiced law since 1995 and is licensed in Mississippi, Tennessee and Massachusetts. During his early years of practice, Tony focused on matters of civil litigation and domestic relations. In 2001 he co-founded the firm of Chamberlin-Nowak, P.C., in Hernando, Mississippi, as a general practice firm that also served as counsel to the DeSoto County, Mississippi Board of Supervisors. In 2006, Tony merged his firm with Smith, Phillips, Mitchell and Scott to create Smith, Phillips, Mitchell, Scott and Nowak, LLP, with offices in Hernando and Batesville, Mississippi.

Tony has provided Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) services, as a dispute resolution neutral, in the DeSoto County area since 1998. In 2005 Tony chose to limit his practice to government law and mediation. In addition to his continued ADR services, Tony is legal counsel to the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors, the DeSoto County Convention and Visitors Bureau (d/b/a Landers Center), the DeSoto County Recreational District and the DeSoto County Sheriff's Department. He also proudly serves as the Municipal Court Judge for the City of Hernando, a position he has held since 2001.



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SOUTH CAROLINA FLORENCE • MYRTLE BEACH

REYNOLDS WILLIAMS

Reynolds Williams was born in Mullins, SC on May 15, 1946. Williams is a decorated combat infantry veteran of Vietnam. He served as Legislative Assistant in the United States Congress and Senate and was an Assistant U.S. Attorney before he joined Wilcox, Buck & Williams in 1977 and became its CEO in 1990.

Governor David Beasley awarded Williams the Order of the Palmetto for his public service, civic responsibility, and friendship to South Carolina. In 2001 Williams was named Business Person of the Year by the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce. In 2008 the USC School of Law named him a "Compleat Lawyer" for 30 years of exemplary service and in 2009 S.C. Lawyers Weekly profiled him as one of the State's "Leaders in the Law." Florence Darlington Technical College inducted him into its inaugural Entrepreneurs Hall of Fame.

Education: UVa, B.A. 1967; USC School of Law, J.D. 1973

Williams has tried over 300 jury trials in courts at every level and been successful in groundbreaking appeals.

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ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION LAW

VIRGINIA RICHMOND

MIDKIFF, MUNCIE & ROSS, P.C.

James C. Shannon has litigated personal injury cases in Virginia state and federal courts, representing plaintiffs and defendants, for over 40 years. He has served as an arbitrator and mediator for over 20 years. Mr. Shannon has tried over 250 cases to verdict in Virginia and has arbitrated or mediated over 200 cases. Mr. Shannon is a past president of the Richmond Bar Association and is a partner at Midkiff, Muncie, & Ross.

Regina Maria Policano specializes in complex civil defense litigation (federal, state and agency) and appellate practice. Her specialties include business and commercial law, products liability, accounting/professional malpractice, and workers' compensation/employment law. Ms. Policano was staff counsel for 17+ years with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Court-certified as a mediator through the Supreme Court of Virginia, she is a partner with Midkiff, Muncie & Ross.

Mr. Shannon and Ms. Policano are Martin-dale-Hubbell AV rated.

Midkiff, Muncie & Ross. Attorneys committed to excellence in representing insurance and self-insured clients throughout Virginia and the Mid-Atlantic region.



James C. Shannon



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