



### Hon. James L. Warren (Ret.)

**Hon. James L. Warren (Ret.)** has been involved in many of San Francisco Superior Court's most high profile cases. Prior to his appointment to the bench, he was Senior Counsel for Pacific Bell in San Francisco where he was primarily responsible for large and complex commercial litigation. Previously, Judge Warren practiced for nearly twenty years with Pillsbury Winthrop (formerly Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro) where he specialized in anti-trust and large commercial cases and was founding Chair of the firm's Intellectual Property Specialty Group. He is known for his insightful analysis, creative problem-solving, and warm but firm manner with all parties.

#### ADR Experience and Qualifications

- Presided over cases involving a wide range of legal issues, including high-stakes insurance, complex employment and environmental suits. His vast civil law experience includes deciding cases involving intellectual property, professional malpractice, construction, real estate, employment, and complex business litigation.
- Mediator in San Francisco County Superior Court's Judicial Mediation Program.
- High-profile cases include: *In re 101 California Street*, a gun manufacturer liability suit where Judge Warren's grant of summary judgment was recently affirmed by the California Supreme Court; injunction proceedings in the 2004 same-sex marriage cases; the constitutionality of San Francisco's Minority and Women Business Enterprise statute; the City of San Francisco's proposed Gun Control ordinance (Proposition H); and the infamous Dog Mauling case.
- Frequent lecturer on litigation skills throughout California and around the country; faculty member for the National Institute for Trial Advocacy since 1984.

#### Representative Matters

##### Business/Commercial

- Mediated and resolved numerous complex matters involving mergers and acquisitions, insurance coverage, shareholder rights, corporate accounting, successor liability
- Successfully mediated numerous cases involving consumer warranty issues
- Franchise Tax Board's interpretation of Federal Tax Reform Act of 1968 and the California Bank and Corporation Tax Fairness (etc.) Act of 1987
- Retroactivity of Prop. 64 & B&P 17200 *et seq.* on consumer commercial litigation.

##### Class Actions/Complex Matters

- Successfully mediated multi-million dollar case between a major international bank and several state governments regarding escheat funds
- Successfully mediated consumer class action involving cell phone early termination fees
- Handled alleged price fixing among tour bus operators in San Francisco
- Resolved multi-million dollar class action suit brought by students in professional degree programs against the University of California for refund of unauthorized tuition increases
- Presided over complex litigation dealing with corporate finance and real estate development, banking interrelationships, oversight by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and fraud/breach of fiduciary duty claims
- Settled complex litigation dealing with costing and distribution of electrical power in California

##### Employment

- Numerous cases involving wrongful and retaliatory termination, age discrimination, FEHA, ADA, and the Unruh Act
- Case involving classification of employees for Worker's Compensation purposes

##### Environmental

- Multi-million dollar insurance dispute with multiple successor parties and overlapping/conflicting insurance contracts. Litigation focused on liability, coverage, and indemnity issues flowing from chemical contamination of agricultural lands
- Complex cases involving use of chlorpyrifos, fungicides, and pesticides in California agriculture
- Complex case involving dioxin discharges into San Francisco Bay
- Application and interpretation of CEQA, CERCLA, OSHA, and other environmental and safety statutes

##### Insurance



T: 415-982-5267

F: 415-982-5287

"Judge Warren is a top choice for private arbitration or mediation. I will choose him for any kind of case, particularly complicated ones."

- Founding Partner of a premier litigation specialty firm in San Francisco

Recipient, Champion of Justice Award

- Bar Association of San Francisco, 2006

Recipient, The Barristers Choice Award

- The Barristers Club of the Bar Association of San Francisco, 2006

#### Case Manager

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- Multi-million dollar complex coverage case involving multiple successor companies and successive insurance policies
- Complex case dealing with Insurance Commissioner's powers over types of insurance issued by registered insurance companies in California Validity of Discretionary Clause in insurance contracts issued in California

**Intellectual Property**

- Development and licensing of Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) technology
- Ownership and royalty distribution of patented, copyrighted, and trademarked properties
- Multi-level licensing transactions

**Honors, Memberships, and Professional Activities**

- Recipient, Champion of Justice Award, Bar Association of San Francisco, 2006
- Recipient, The Barristers Choice Award (Judge of the Year), The Barristers Club of the Bar Association of San Francisco, 2006
- Recipient, Award For Outstanding Service to the Legal Community, *Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom*, 2005
- Judicial Advisor, Executive Committee, Litigation Section of the California Bar Association
- Member, San Francisco Superior Court's Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee
- Member, California Judicial Council Task Force on Complex Civil Litigation
- Member, California Judicial Counsel Continuing Education Committee
- Member, California Judges Association; Faculty Member, Judges College and New Judge Orientation Program
- Judicial Fellow, Association of Trial Lawyers of America
- Lifetime Member, Fellows of the American Bar Foundation
- Member, American Bar and California Bar Associations
- Member and Officer, Edward J. McFetridge American Inn of Court
- Admitted to practice: U.S. Supreme Court; Court(s) of Appeals for Second, Fifth, Ninth, and Federal Circuits; all District Courts for California and New York; Northern District of Texas; all State Courts in California and New York

**Background and Education**

- Judge, San Francisco County Superior Court, 1994-2006 (Law & Motion Department, 2003-2006)
- Senior Counsel, Pacific Bell, 1993-1994
- Partner, Pillsbury Winthrop (formerly Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro), 1980-1993 (Associate, 1975-1980)
- Associate, Clifford Chance (formerly Rogers & Wells), 1973-1975
- J.D., Hofstra University School of Law, 1973; Recipient of University's First Most Distinguished Alumnus Award, 1983
- B.A., University of California, Berkeley, 1966