



HON. ELIZABETH P. MARTIN (RET.)

MEDIATOR • ARBITRATOR

WAMS Mediator Certification: 2022

Expertise Areas:

- General Civil and Tort Litigation
- Serious Injury and Wrongful Death
- Asbestos/Product Liability
- Commercial and Contract Disputes
- Employment Discrimination
- Family Law
- Probate & Estate Disputes/TEDRA
- Professional Negligence

Accomplishments:

Judge Elizabeth Martin recently retired from the Pierce County Superior Court bench after more than 11 years of distinguished service. While on the bench, Judge Martin served a variety of roles, most notably as the Presiding Judge in 2017 and 2018, selected for that role by her peers. Judge Martin began her career in 1982 as a Judicial Clerk to Justice Charles Stafford of the Washington State Supreme Court. Following her clerkship, she joined the Tacoma firm of Gordon Thomas Honeywell, where she remained for nearly 27 years until appointed by Governor Christine Gregoire to the bench in May 2010. As a civil litigator, Judge Martin focused on employment law and related disputes before moving to the asbestos defense team in 1999, representing defendants in asbestos-related personal injury cases. She remained a member of that team for the remainder of her tenure with the Gordon Thomas firm.

During her career, Judge Martin was an active member of Washington Women Lawyers, serving as Chapter Co-President in 2004-2005. She was honored by WWL with the Chapter Member of the Year award in 2007 and the Passing the Torch Award in 2010. She remained active in her community as well, serving in many volunteer roles, including service on the boards of Franke Tobey Jones, Sound Outreach, Tacoma Art Museum Activities Council as well as volunteer service through her church.

Judge Martin comes to WAMS with a passion for mediation, developed over the course of her career. Prior to becoming a judge, she was a Certified Rule 39.1 Mediator for federal court and conducted dozens of volunteer family law settlement conferences through the Center for Dialogue and Resolution. As a sitting judge, she furthered her skills as a highly successful settlement conference judge.

Education:

- University of Washington Mediator Training (36 hours), 1997
- Willamette University College of Law, J.D. Cum Laude, 1982
- The College of Idaho, B.A. cum laude, 1979

Affiliations:

Washington Arbitration & Mediation Service • WSBA (currently inactive) • Hon. Robert J. Bryan Inns of Court, Emeritus • American Judges Association • Washington Women Lawyers • Pierce County Superior Court, Presiding Judge (2017-2018) • Superior Court Judges Association, Chair Civil Law & Rules