

Harold I. Abramson

Professor of Law
Touro Law Center
225 Eastview Drive
Central Islip, NY 11722
631-761-7110, C-917-355-4281
habramson@tourolaw.edu

Professor Hal Abramson is a full-time faculty member at Touro Law Center, New York, where he teaches, trains, and writes on negotiation, mediation, mediation advocacy, and resolving intercultural disputes. He has taught or trained in seventeen countries on five continents. For his contributions to the field of dispute resolution, he received the 2013 Peace Builder Award from the New York State Dispute Resolution Association.

In addition to teaching dispute resolution courses and remedies, he has taught courses on administrative law, anti-trust, sales, and international business and trade. At Touro, he served for nine years as vice dean responsible for academic programs, faculty development, and international programs. While at Touro, he visited as a full-time faculty member at Cardozo (NYC) and UNLV (Las Vegas) Law Schools. He has been teaching at Cardozo Law School since 2000 as an adjunct faculty member in dispute resolution. He was recently selected by the International Academy of Mediators (IAM) to serve as its first Scholar-in-(virtual) Residence and by UNLV as one of its first two Saltman Senior Scholars in ADR.

Hal Abramson is an experienced domestic and international commercial mediator (serves on U.S and international panels including AAA, National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals, West Coast Resolution Group (San Diego), NY Eastern District Federal Court, and Beijing Mediation Center). He has been selected for the *International Who's Who of Commercial Mediation* since its inaugural year in 2011 (first year, 194 selected worldwide) and has mediate cases involving parties from more than a dozen countries. He also serves on the Association of American Law Schools' twenty person panel that facilitates faculty retreats and has conducted strategic planning processes for law schools and board of directors.

Hal served as Chair of the ABA Committee of the Section for Dispute Resolution that drafted the mediation representation rules for its national competition and received an ABA special service award for his work. He served as a member of the inaugural committee that launched the ICC's international mediation competition in Paris. In addition, he served as Chair of the IMI (International Mediation Institute) Task Force in The Hague that designed the first ever program for certifying intercultural mediators. Most recently, he chaired the Post-Summit Initiatives Committee for the ABA-UNCITRAL International Mediation Summit in Delhi. He is currently actively assisting IMI and the U.S. State Department with a UNCITRAL (UN) initiative to draft a treaty to enforce cross-border mediated settlement agreements.

Hal's publications include the leading treatise on representing clients in mediation entitled *MEDIATION REPRESENTATION* (Aspen 3rd edition, Oxford University Press, and in Russian) (received the annual book award of the CPR Institute for Dispute Resolution). In addition, he co-authored the textbook, *INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION-ADR CONSENSUAL PROCESSES* (West).

His academic credentials include a BBA (business)-University of Michigan, JD-Syracuse University, MPA-Harvard School of Government, and LLM-Harvard Law School.

For a more detailed biography, see www.tourolaw.edu/faculty/abramson.



For the past 16 years, David Abeshouse has been a solo practitioner concentrating in **business litigation** and **Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)**; arbitration and mediation), creatively resolving the **business disputes** of clients -- entrepreneurs, professionals, and small businesses – principally through arbitration or mediation. Before that, he was a commercial litigation and ADR partner in a medium-sized L.I. law firm. For nearly 3 decades, his **law practice** has focused on resolving B-2-B disputes. Selected to **SuperLawyers** (for ADR), multiple years.

David serves as neutral **Arbitrator** on the Commercial Panel of Neutrals of the American Arbitration Assn. and other major ADR forums (ICDR). He acts as a private judge, hearing evidence and rendering final, binding awards.

He also is a forum-based and private **Mediator**, a neutral impartial facilitator of settlement negotiations leading to agreements resolving business disputes. Mediation avoids excessive court litigation (and its attendant expense, disruption, delay, and risks) and achieves creative, mutually beneficial results for all involved. See his profile at: <http://www.mediate.com/mediator/details.cfm?id=25572&ac=516> David also serves as a “deal mediator” and an ADR consultant to other lawyers.

David was selected for charter membership in **The New York Academy of Mediators & Arbitrators (NYAMA; Executive Committee Member)**, **Chapter of The National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals (NADN)**. The NADN is an association of distinguished attorney-neutrals well-versed in Alternative Dispute Resolution. Membership is by invitation only, and limited to neutrals with proven experience in resolution of commercial disputes, recognized through a peer-nomination and client review process. The NYAMA has 47 top-tier ADR practitioners, only 4 of whom are on L.I. <http://www.nadn.org/david-abeshouse>

David was selected for membership as a **Fellow of the College of Commercial Arbitrators (CCA)**. Membership is by invitation only. There are 48 CCA Fellows in NY State, and only 4 on Long Island. According to its website: *The CCA is a national organization of commercial arbitrators[that] promotes the highest standards of conduct, professionalism and ethical practice, develops “best practices,” and provides peer training and professional development. The College... offers an easy means to identify those individuals whose professional training and experience qualify them to undertake the most complex and difficult arbitration assignments.* <http://www.thecca.net>

David co-founded in 2000 the **Attorney Round Table** (<http://www.AttorneyRT.com>), a unique networking group of about 30 niche practice lawyers who meet monthly, support each other’s practices, and refer business among members. He also is a long-time member of Gotham City Networking, and a member of the **International Network of Boutique Law Firms** – see: <http://www.INBLF.com> He has been an avid user of **LinkedIn** since 2004, to market his practice.

He has served for many years on the Boards of Directors, as President, or *pro bono* General Counsel, of several **not-for-profit corporations**, and for nearly twenty years served as **President** of the U.S. (Manhattan and Chicago) **real estate business** of an Australian client. David also is a past Chairperson of the **Nassau County Bar Association ADR Law Committee**.

David presents at **public speaking** engagements on ADR and other legal topics, and publishes **articles** online and in print (periodicals and books) nationwide and regionally. He is a past **Adjunct Law Professor**, at **St. John's Univ. School of Law**, teaching ADR Law. **Martindale** AV-Preeminent (5.0 out of 5.0) rating; **Avvo** 10 out of 10 ranking.

For information including testimonials, publications, & speaking engagements, visit: <http://www.BizLawNY.com>



Erica B. Garay

Member of the Firm

990 Stewart Avenue
Garden City, New York 11530
(516) 592-5770
egaray@msek.com

Practice Areas

Alternative Dispute Resolution
Litigation & Dispute Resolution
Employment Law

Education

St. John's University School of Law
J.D., 1978
*Associate Managing Editor of
St. John's Law Review*
Binghamton University
B. A., 1973

Memberships

National Arbitration and Mediation (NAM),
Panel of Mediators and Arbitrators
Arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association,
Commercial and Complex Litigation Panel
Mediator for the American Arbitration Association
Roster of Mediators of Nassau, New York, Queens,
Suffolk and Westchester Counties, Supreme Court,
Commercial Division
Mediation panel of the U.S. District Court, S.D.N.Y. and
the U.S. District Court, E.D.N.Y. and S.D.N.Y.
Bankruptcy Court Mediation Panel
American Bar Association: Litigation,
Dispute Resolution, Business Law Sections
New York State Bar Association: Federal and
Commercial Litigation, Business Law,
Dispute Resolution Sections
Nassau County Bar Association: Alternative Dispute
Resolution Courts, Commercial Litigation
Committee, and Federal Litigation Committees
Long Island Children's Museum Board of Trustees,
Member
Nassau County Bar Association Alternative Dispute
Resolution Committee, Co-Chair

Admissions

New York State
U.S. District Court, Southern and Eastern
Districts of New York
U.S. District Court, Northern and Central
Districts of California
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin
U.S. District Court, District of Colorado
U. S. Court of Appeals for the Federal, Second, and
Third Circuits

Erica B. Garay is the Chair of the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) practice group, an arbitrator and mediator, and a member of the Litigation practice at Meyer, Suozzi, English & Klein, P.C. located in Garden City, Long Island, N.Y. where she handles commercial litigation. She is also a Member of the Firm. Ms. Garay is on the NAM and American Arbitration Association rosters of neutrals for commercial and complex litigation and on the mediation panel. Ms. Garay serves on rosters of mediators for Nassau, Suffolk, Queens, Westchester and New York Counties, N.Y.S. Supreme Court, Commercial Division, the U.S. District Court for the Southern and the Eastern Districts of New York, including those courts' bankruptcy panels.

Ms. Garay has arbitrated or mediated numerous disputes (as a neutral) concerning real property transactions, contracts, environmental contamination, insurance coverage, shareholder and LLC disputes (dissolutions, freeze-outs, oppression, breach of fiduciary duty, valuation and derivative claims), employment discrimination, non-competition and other restrictive covenants, and trade secrets, business disputes and a variety of other commercial matters.

As an advocate for clients, Ms. Garay concentrates on commercial litigation including corporate and partnership dissolutions, shareholder disputes and business valuations, arbitrations, trials, appeals, employment law, and general business representation. Ms. Garay represents businesses of all sizes and their management. She has served on steering committees charged with planning the course of major pieces of litigation. She has lectured and authored articles on ADR, federal practice, employment law, shareholder rights, restrictive covenants and trade secrets, and advises businesses on these and other corporate and commercial matters.

Notable experience includes:

- Obtained an injunction to protect trade secrets of a manufacturing company and successfully defended the injunction in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- Defeated an application for an injunction against an international jewelry designer based upon claims of trademark infringement and trade secret misappropriation; won motion to dismiss claims of jewelry design copyright infringement
- Obtained an injunction to protect trade secrets of clothing manufacturer, in absence of contractual protection

Erica B. Garay

- Won earn-out award for seller of high-tech business after arbitration and prevailed on appeal
- Tried several shareholder and partnership, dissolutions and valuation cases (in court and arbitration)
- Tried several breach of restrictive covenant and misappropriation of trade secrets claims
- Obtained insurance coverage for complex commercial torts and other lawsuits
- Advised numerous clients on corporate governance and shareholder rights; and non-competition; non-disclosure; confidentiality and non-solicitation agreements, including motions, trials, arbitrations, and appeals
- Successfully arbitrated break-up of medical practice and claims of breach of fiduciary duty and theft of trade secrets and breach of non-competition agreement
- Arbitrated (as a neutral) claims regarding insurance coverage; complex real estate transactions; hotel management contract; medical billing disputes; non-competition disputes; disability claims; shareholder disputes; LLC disputes; breach of fiduciary duty disputes; breach of contract; LLC dissolution; and valuation
- Mediated disputes (as a neutral) regarding real estate brokerage commissions; insurance coverage; civil rights claims; business divorces, employment discrimination claims; breach of contract; breach of non-competition agreement; theft of trade secrets; insurance broker malpractice; breach of fiduciary duty claims; and breach of commercial lease and guaranty

Among her many accolades, Ms. Garay was honored by the Long Island Women's Agenda in 2008. Ms. Garay was inducted into the "Top 50 Women on Long Island" Hall of Fame in 2003, after being a recipient of the honor for two prior years. She was named Advocate of the Year in 2002 by Women on the Job, and she was the Girl Scouts of Nassau County's Juliette Low Award of Distinction recipient in 2000. She was the recipient of the 1993 Achievers' Award in Law from the Long Island Center for Business & Professional Women and inducted in to its Hall of Fame in 2001. She has also been recognized by the American Bar Association's Section of Litigation, receiving its Distinguished Leadership Award.

Ms. Garay has lectured at the Practising Law Institute on "Enforcing Confidentiality and Non-Compete Agreements"; presented at the New York Judicial Institute to the State's Commercial Judges on "Trade Secret and Restrictive Covenant Litigation"; at the Nassau and Suffolk Academies of Law on shareholder dissolutions and "Trade Secrets in the Electronic Age"; and at the Nassau County and Suffolk County Bar Associations on arbitration and mediation. She is also a frequent lecturer on ADR and shareholder rights.

Prior to joining Meyer Suozzi, Ms. Garay was a partner of the firm of Rivkin Radler LLP. She was previously associated with Willkie, Farr & Gallagher, and served as an Assistant Corporation Counsel in the General Litigation Division of the New York City Law Department. She also worked on two of the largest contract cases ever to go to trial in New York City and Seattle, both of which resulted in multi-million dollar verdicts or judgments in favor of her clients, and was on the steering committee which successfully defended coverage litigation for a \$750 million clean-up of PCB contamination in multi-district litigation.

LISA RENEE POMERANTZ BIO

Lisa Renee Pomerantz has more than thirty years of legal and dispute resolution experience. After graduating from Harvard University and Boston University Law School, Lisa clerked for a federal judge. Following a stint as a litigation attorney, she worked for fifteen years as a senior-level in-house counsel for a major corporation.

Since 2003, Lisa has practiced law in Suffolk County. She works primarily with entrepreneurs on commercial and corporate matters involving customers, vendors and collaborators, and to resolve business and employment disputes amicably and cost-effectively. She serves on the AAA's Roster of Neutrals as a commercial mediator and arbitrator and has served in a variety of leadership roles with the Association for Conflict Resolution, the New York State Dispute Resolution Association and the Suffolk County Bar Association.

Lisa is a popular keynote speaker at business meetings and conferences, and publishes an email newsletter entitled "Making the Connection." She also has provided on-line and live training for business and legal audiences.

In 2015, Lisa received an award from the Association for Conflict Resolution for exemplary leadership. In 2010, the Long Island Business News named Lisa as a recipient of its Top Fifty Around 50 Award and in 2011 as a recipient of its Leadership in Law Award. In 2007, Lisa received the Suffolk County Bar Association Directors' Award in recognition of her service as ADR Committee Co-Chair and also received Awards of Recognition in 2004 for her contributions to continuing legal education and as IP Committee Co-Chair.