

Robert R. Pohls

Litigator – Mediator - Arbitrator

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www.pohlsmediation.com

Nationally-recognized for defending complex litigation involving the sale and administration of employee benefit plans and life, health, and disability insurance policies, compliance with financial services regulations, consumer privacy issues, claims against insurance agents and producers, allegations of unfair competition and other business torts.

Veteran business litigator with substantial experience in cases involving breach of contract, commercial disputes, construction, consumer claims, product liability, real estate, securities, trade practices, unfair competition and other business torts.

Trusted advisor and trial counsel in employment matters ranging from individual cases of wrongful termination, discrimination and/or harassment to multi-party wage and hour cases involving FLSA claims and allegations of worker misclassification.

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Founder and Principal

Pohls & Associates, San Ramon, CA

April 1999–Present

Leader of California's only boutique law firm for the defense of bad faith, ERISA and other litigation involving employee benefits, life insurance and annuities, accident and health insurance, disability insurance, long term care insurance, pensions and retirement plans, and SIU/MCIU matters.

- Statewide litigation and trial practice in state and federal courts throughout California
- Frequently retained by a major life insurance company to litigate cases and/or manage litigation in other states (e.g., Idaho, Michigan, Nevada and Utah)
- Frequent interaction with regulatory authorities concerning consumer complaints and compliance issues
- Eliminated all litigation against a major long-term care insurance company by providing claim-related legal advice on a national basis
- Acting as Project Counsel for a major property and casualty insurance company's California multi-claim investigation unit to identify fraudulent activities and evaluate potential affirmative litigation

Founder and Mediator

Pohls Mediation, Oakland, CA

July 2007–Present

Provider of private mediation services, principally in civil litigation and commercial disputes involving life, health and disability insurance, ERISA and employee benefits, consumer lending and financial services, business disputes, labor and employment issues, and civil rights matters.

EDUCATION

Doctorate of Jurisprudence (1987)

University of California, Davis, School of Law

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science (1984)

Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA

BAR ADMISSIONS

California State Bar (SBN 131021)

Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

U.S.D.C., Northern District of California

U.S.D.C., Eastern District of California

U.S.D.C., Central District of California

U.S.D.C., Southern District of California

U.S.D.C., Eastern District of Michigan

SKILLS

First-chair responsibility for all phases of civil litigation, including trials and appeals

Multi-jurisdictional experience in state and federal courts throughout California and the Western U.S.

Collaboration with business clients in highly regulated industries to devise and implement strategies for regulatory compliance, risk management and litigation avoidance

Formally-trained mediator and arbitrator who actively serves on ADR panels of 3 federal courts and several state courts in California

RECOGNITION

7-time Northern California **"Super Lawyer"** (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020)

Founder of a firm the *Fortune 500* named a **"Go-To Firm"** for Litigation (2008)

San Francisco Area **"Top-Rated Lawyer"** in Insurance Law and in Labor & Employment

Defense Research Institute's National Spokesperson on Health Care Reform