

HON. PATRICK J. O'HARA (Ret.)

TULARE COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT

Judge Patrick J. O'Hara (Ret.) is a twenty-six year veteran of the Tulare County courts. He was a sought-after settlement judge who developed a reputation for fair and efficient resolution of civil cases.

Judge O'Hara was elected Presiding Judge by his peers on multiple occasions, including consecutive terms during the consolidation of the Superior and Municipal courts.

Judge O'Hara has mediated over 2,300 broad-ranging matters and possesses extensive experience in hearing and settling cases in all phases of civil litigation, including:

Contracts/Breach of Contract: specific performance, construction, agricultural /marketing contracts, real estate sales, agents and brokers, partnership agreements and disputes.

Corporations: general and limited partnership relationships and agreements.

Construction: contracts and subcontracts, construction project disputes, breach, express and implied warranties, public/private works.

Agriculture: agricultural packing/marketing contracts, crop loss, water rights.

Real Property: quiet title, warranty, partition, agents and brokers, rights of first refusal, agents and brokers, real estate transactions, property ownership matters

Employment: employment controversies, class actions, dual and multi-party cases involving breach of contract, wages and hours, discrimination, harassment, wrongful actual/constructive discharge, violations of public policy, failure to interact or accommodate, retaliation, hostile work environment, privacy FEHA, Title VII, ADA.

Insurance: comprehensive general liability, insurance coverage issues, excess insurance, extended coverages, endorsements, uninsured and underinsured motorists, agency/broker agreements, professional liability insurance.

Professional Negligence: legal malpractice, accounting malpractice, medical malpractice.

Probate and Trust: contest, accountings/objections to accountings, breach of fiduciary duties, creation and termination.

Personal Injury: industrial accidents, automobiles, motorcycles, bicycles, wrongful death, health care elder abuse.

Damages: tort, contract, general, special, bodily injury, intentional and negligent infliction of emotion distress, attorney fees and costs.

Judge O'Hara has a strong belief in the value of mediation and will work diligently with the parties to reach a fair resolution of legal disputes.

His broad knowledge of the court system will serve as an invaluable aid in assisting parties in resolving disputes.

In addition to his extensive experience in helping parties reach amicable resolutions in court, Judge O'Hara has completed mediation training through the Strauss Institute at Pepperdine University, Fresno Pacific University, and California Judicial Research and Education.

Judge O'Hara began his career with the Tulare County District Attorney's Office, where he was soon promoted to Chief Trial Attorney and later to the position of the Assistant District Attorney. He has participated in hundreds of trials, both as an attorney and as a judge.

Judicial, Arbitration and Mediation Experience

2012-present Retired Judge, Mediator, Arbitrator, Discovery Referee

1992-2011 Judge of the Tulare County Superior Court

1985-1992 Judge of the Visalia Municipal Court

Other Professional Experience

1982-1985 Assistant District Attorney; Office of the Tulare County District Attorney

1979-1982 Chief Trial Deputy; Office of the Tulare County District Attorney

1977-1979 Deputy District Attorney; Office of the Tulare County District Attorney

1976-1977 Hearing Officer with the State of California, Board of Parole Hearings

Education

1976 Graduated University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law; Member of the California State Bar Association; State Bar Number 72138

Contact Information

Judge Patrick J. O'Hara (Ret.)

Retired Judge - Arbitrator - Mediator

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