

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 has been a sought-after settlement judge who has 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 being elected Presiding Judge for consecutive terms during the consolidation of the Superior and Municipal courts.

Judge O'Hara has extensive experience in hearing and settling cases in all phases of civil litigation, including medical malpractice, products liability, water rights, business disputes, wrongful termination, insurance bad faith and probate.

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.

Mediated over 1,000 broad-ranging matters, including business and commercial disputes, employment, labor and wage and hour, elder abuse, partnership dissolutions, personal injury, products liability, professional malpractice, real property, sexual abuse and probate and trust matters.

**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**

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