

**JEFF F. McELROY**  
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<https://nmdisputeresolution.com>

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**Mediator • Arbitrator • Settlement Facilitator • Special Master**

An experienced mediator, settlement facilitator and former chief judge with a good track record of resolving hard to settle cases, Judge McElroy has practiced law for forty years, including seven years as a general jurisdiction judge in the Eighth Judicial District Court in New Mexico. Selected by his fellow district judges to serve five years as chief judge and by the Supreme Court to chair the Statewide Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission, he retired from the bench in 2019. He now lives in Santa Fe and works with attorneys around the state to resolve cases. He serves on the First Judicial Districts dispute resolution panel. District judges have appointed the former judge to serve as a special master and an arbitrator in district court cases. He serves on the American Arbitration Association's commercial and consumer panels as an arbitrator and mediator. Judge McElroy is available to handle all case types via video conference or in person in New Mexico and through the Southwest.

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### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

*Hon. Jeff Foster McElroy, Ret, LLC, Santa Fe, New Mexico*  
December 2019 to present

- Currently mediates from twenty-five to thirty cases per year. Areas of law represented include:
  - Real estate, property, and homeowner associations
  - Business Contracts
  - Probates and Estates
  - Employment
  - Guardian and Conservator
  - Kinship Guardian
  - Personal Injury
  - Subrogation
  - Domestic Relations
- Certified Arbitrator and Mediator with the American Arbitration Association
  - Member of the Commercial and Consumer arbitration panels
  - Completed AAA's CORE training and award writing seminar
  - Currently accepting arbitrations through AAA or by attorney referral
- Trainer and Speaker
  - 17<sup>th</sup> Annual ABA Advanced Mediation and Advocacy Skills Institute: Breaking the Impasse, South Texas College of Law, Houston, TX 2020.
  - NM Bar's Dispute Resolution Section, Making the Shift to Online, an online presentation, 2020
  - National Judicial College Adjunct faculty: Civil Mediation for Judges, Reno, NV 2019

- ABA Dispute Resolution Section's 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Spring Conference, Court-annexed Mediation in Rural States, Minneapolis, MN 2019
- New Mexico Bench and Bar Conference: Court-annexed ADR in NM Update, Albuquerque, NM 2019
- NM Risk Management Division ADR Symposium: Building Your Court's ADR Program Workshop, and Mediation vs. Settlement Facilitation, Santa Fe Community College, Santa Fe, NM 2019
- Regular participant in the ABA Dispute Resolution Section's Annual Spring Conference, Advanced Mediation and Advocacy Skills Institute, and Arbitration Institute, Various locations 2019-2021

*District Court Judge, Eighth Judicial District Court Judge, Taos, Union and Colfax Counties, NM December 2012 to October 2019*

- General jurisdiction judge
  - Original jurisdiction in thousands of civil cases ranging from \$50,000 to multi-millions of dollars
  - Original jurisdiction in thousands of felony criminal cases
  - Handled hundreds of civil appeals involving small claims, employment, real estate, civil rights, and local government due process cases
  - Presided over complex discovery disputes and civil dispositive motions
  - Utilized settlement facilitation to resolve complex civil matters prior to trial
- Chief Judge of the Eighth Judicial District Court
  - Provided leadership and oversight to district and magistrate courts in Taos, Union, and Colfax Counties
  - Developed and managed court budgets, personnel, and facilities for six court facilities
  - In conjunction with the Supreme Court and the Chief Judges Counsel, advocated at the New Mexico State Legislature on court issues and funding
- Chair, New Mexico Supreme Court's Statewide Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission
  - Served January 2017 through December 2020
  - Collaborated in and supported civil court-annexed ADR in New Mexico courts
  - Advocated for ADR programs statewide
  - In coordination with the NM Supreme Court advocated at the New Mexico State Legislature for legislative changes and ADR funding.
  - Recognized by the Commission with the Award of Distinction in the Field of ADR 2019

*Other Relevant Professional Experience*

- Adjunct Professor, Courts and Criminal Justice, University of New Mexico, 2006-2013
- Deputy/Assistant District Attorney, Eighth Judicial District, Taos, New Mexico, 2003-2012
- Law Office of Jeff Foster McElroy, Los Angeles, California, 1992 – 1999
- Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 1985 – 1988
- Associate, Caldwell Lennsen Mandel and Jesmer, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 1984 – 1985
- Hearing Officer, Office of Governor Toney Anaya, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 1983 – 1984

## **PROFESSIONAL LICENSES AND ASSOCIATIONS**

Admitted to the bar in the following jurisdictions:

- New Mexico State Bar Association (1983)
- US District Court: New Mexico (1984)
- US Circuit Court of Appeals: Tenth (1984)
- California State Bar Association (1992), currently on in-active status

New Mexico State Bar Association, Alternative Dispute Resolution Section

Santa Fe County Bar Association

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section

## **EDUCATION**

*Juris Doctorate*

University of New Mexico, School of Law, Albuquerque, New Mexico 1982

*Bachelor of Arts*

St. John's College, Santa Fe, New Mexico 1979