

Mark Aceto

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From 1995 to 2015, Mark Aceto served as a Superior Court Judge in Maricopa County. Mark presided over civil calendars for nine and a half years. For two years, beginning in 2006, he served as the Presiding Judge of the court's civil department. He also presided over calendars in the court's family, probate and criminal departments. On each of these assignments he presided over numerous settlement conferences. He has also served as a neutral in the Arizona Court of Appeals Settlement Conference Program.

Mark graduated with honors from both Villanova University in 1977 and from the Arizona State University College of Law in 1980. He is a member of the State Bar of Arizona. He is also admitted to US District Court and to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals.

After working as a prosecutor for seven years, Mark joined the Liability Management Section of the Arizona Attorney General's Office in 1987. For the next eight years, his practice focused on defending physicians employed or insured by the state. The great majority of Mark's clients were attending and resident physicians at the University of Arizona College of Medicine.

As a lawyer, Mark tried over 70 jury trials. As a judge, Mark tried over 300 jury trials.

Mark served on a number of committees, including the State Bar's Civil Practice and Procedure Committee and the Arizona Supreme Court's Complex Civil Litigation Committee. He served as a judge pro tem at the Court of Appeals (Division One) in 1994, 2005 and 2006. Mark has also served as adjunct faculty at the Arizona State University College of Law.

In 2014, the Phoenix Chapter of The American Board of Trial Advocates named Mark Judge of the Year.

The bulk of Mark's mediation training came on the bench in the context of settling cases after the parties had participated in failed mediations. In 2004, Mark completed a 40-hour mediation course sponsored by the Judicial Division of the American Bar Association. In 2014, he also completed a week of mediation training at the National Judicial College.

Mark retired from the bench in 2015. His private practice is devoted exclusively to neutral services, focusing on mediation and arbitration of civil and insurance disputes. He also serves as an appraisal umpire and as a court appointed special master. Since retiring from the bench, Mark has been a CLE presenter on the topic of mediation for the State Bar, the County Bar, and at Maricopa County Superior Court Judicial Education Day.