

## Former Circuit Court Magistrate Judge

Richard F. McDevitt, Founder of McDevitt Mediation Center, served as Magistrate Judge of the Lake County Circuit Court from his appointment to the bench in 2006, until 2011. During that time, he served as a member of the Indiana Supreme Court's Committee on Jury Rules from 2007 through 2009, drafting the Rules and Amendments governing assembly, selection and management of Juries in all Courts of the State of Indiana. He was the recipient of the Outstanding Judge Award from the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence in 2008, in recognition for outstanding service to victims of domestic violence. In his role as Circuit Court Judge, he presided over jury and bench trials involving all aspects of civil disputes, including personal injury and wrongful death, insurance coverage, medical and legal malpractice, class actions, contracts, real property, property tax, employment discrimination, wrongful discharge, injunctions and family law, among others, and also successfully conducted Judicial Settlement Conferences involving complex litigation.

Richard is a graduate of the Indiana Continuing Legal Education Forum's Civil and Domestic Relations Mediation Training, and is registered with the Indiana Supreme Court as both a Civil and a Domestic Relations Mediator. Since leaving the bench, he has conducted hundreds of mediations and has served as Panel Chair on numerous Arbitration Panels involving personal injury and contract disputes.

Before taking the bench, Richard worked in private practice of law in Lake County, Indiana, for 22 years. During that time he practiced as a civil litigator representing both Plaintiffs and Defendants. He also worked as City Attorney for the City of Gary, Indiana, as a litigator and appellate counsel.

He is a graduate of Indiana University (BA, 1982), and Indiana University School of Law in Bloomington, Indiana (JD, 1985).