



Current CV of Myer J. Sankary, Esq.

Myer J. Sankary received his BA in Philosophy from Texas Christian University in 1962 (summa cum laude), and his JD from Harvard Law School in 1965. He has been actively engaged in the practice of law for over 45 years, the last seventeen years of which he has been mediating disputes, and he has been a full time mediator with ADR Services, Inc. since 2008. Myer has been active in numerous California State Bar organizations, and was the former chairman of the Solo and Small Firm Section; he is now senior advisor to that section, as well as a past member of the State Bar Mandatory Fee Arbitration Committee. His first law position was with Wyman, Finell & Rothman in 1965 and ended in 1970. He became Regional in house counsel to American Medicorp in 1971 to 1972. In 1972, Myer formed his law practice and continued to practice law until he became a full time mediator with ADR Services.

Myer has served as the chairman of the Mandatory Fee Arbitration program for the San Fernando Valley Bar Association since its inception in 2006. In that capacity he reviews all arbitration decisions concerning disputes over fees between clients and their attorneys. He is also on the Trust and Estate committee of the LA County Bar Association. And he is on the LA Superior Court Supervising ADR Committee that managed all of the mediations that were referred to members of the court mediation panel. Because the Court's ADR program was terminated in June 2013 due to budget cuts, Myer is now the founder of the working committee to establish a non-profit affordable mediation program sponsored by the San Fernando Valley Bar Association to provide dispute resolution services to all litigants of the San Fernando Valley and elsewhere and to assist the Courts and litigants to resolve dispute quickly and cost-efficiently through mediation. Myer believes this new program to replace the Court's ADR program will fill an important role in giving low-income litigants access to justice in light of the reduction of courts and services.

Mr. Sankary was also the former President of the Southern California Mediation Association, the largest organization of its kind for mediators of this region. Mr. Sankary is currently heading a committee to form a non-profit organization sponsored by the San Fernando Valley Bar Association to promote affordable mediation services for litigants and their attorneys to replace the mediation service provide by the Los Angeles Superior Court ADR program. Myer has also volunteered to provide free mediation services to probate litigants in a program sponsored by the LASC Probate Department.

Mr. Sankary is also a member of the Neuroleadership Institute; he was personally trained by one of the world's leading social scientists, Dr. Robert Cialdini, the author of the best-seller, "Influence; Science and Practice," and received his CMCT certification to present the Principles of Persuasion workshop based on Cialdini's acclaimed research in this field. For the past several years, Myer has been a lecturer at the USC Marshall School of Business, presenting negotiating workshops for MBA students and providing basic training in mediation skills. Myer has also presented numerous programs at the State Bar Annual Meetings as well as to local bar associations and regional law firms as well as business organizations and associations on numerous topics relating to application of cognitive sciences, behavioral economics and finance to businesses and law practice. Myer teaches the application of cognitive sciences to lawyers and business leaders to become more effective leaders in their professional careers by using the science of the mind, behavioral economics and social influence. He has attended numerous advanced courses by leading neuroscientists applying theories of neuroscience to resolving high stakes, high emotion conflicts and has completed courses on line with renown behavioral economist, Dan Ariely of Duke University; social scientist, Mitch Duneier of Princeton University; and finance professor Gautum Kaul of University of Michigan.

Myer has recently presented a program to the office of General Trial Counsel of the State Bar on the use of social and cognitive science to resolve disciplinary claims against attorneys accused of ethical violation.. He also trains lawyers to become arbitrators for the Mandatory Fee Arbitration programs. He has trained mediators in many different areas, including probate, and estates, elder law and conservatorships as well as general negotiating principles and practice

Public Service:

Mr. Sankary served on Mayor Bradley's Hispanic-Jewish dialogue and Mayor Villaragosa's Interfaith Dialogue with Moslems and Jews. Myer has a diverse background whose Jewish parents were immigrants in the beginning of the 20th Century, his father coming from Damascus, Syria and his mother from Lublin, Poland. Myer was born and raised in Ft. Worth, Texas, the youngest of 10 children.

Mr. Sankary studied and worked abroad for one year after graduating from high school in 1957 in the emerging democracy of Israel where he lived on different settlements, and learned to plant fields and harvest, milk cows and sheep, and worked in commercial fishing on the Sea of Galilee. He became interested in the plight of Palestinians and became an active member of the board of the non-profit support organization for the Oasis of Peace (known as Neve Shalom/Wahat al Salam in Israel) the only bi-national, multi-lingual and multi-cultural intentional democratic community of Palestinians and Jews whose mission is to demonstrate that it is possible for Jews and Arabs to leave peacefully with one another in the same community. He initiated a program on mediation taught at the School for Peace by two Pepperdine Law Professors and sponsored by the State Department in 1996.

Mr. Sankary has traveled to over 90 countries with his wife of 44 years, most recently returning from his second safari to Africa, including this trip to South Africa, Zambia and Batswana. His extensive travel experience has made him appreciate people of all cultures and to embrace the diversity of cultures around the world and in Los Angeles where he has lived since 1965.

Honors and Awards:

In 2013 Myer was named a Superlawyer in the field of Alternate Dispute Resolution by his peers. Super Lawyers is a rating service of outstanding lawyers from more than 70 practice areas who have attained a high-degree of peer recognition and professional achievement. The selection process is multi-phased and includes independent research, peer nominations and peer evaluations.

The Solo and Small Firm Section of the State Bar of California honored Myer by naming an annual award in his name. **Myer J. Sankary Lawyer of the Year Award** is presented to an individual who has exercised notable leadership or shown a contribution to the development of greater justice in a field of law. The award is presented annually to an individual who is a sole practitioner or a member of a small firm and who has demonstrated years of faithful service and leadership to the community or his or her fellow attorneys.

The General, Solo and Small Firm Section of the ABA awarded Myer the 2002 Donald Rikli Lifetime Achievement Award for outstanding services rendered on behalf of lawyers in California and the nation. Mr. Sankary has provided extensive services to the legal profession as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Solo & Small Firm Section of the State Bar of California, and has been responsible for promoting extensive educational programs as well as a web based Mentor Directory which assists attorneys to provide better services under the auspices of an experienced mentor.