

Louis H. (Louie) Castoria

Experienced Dispute Resolution Neutral and Advocate

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ADR and Related Qualifications:

Certificated Arbitrator, Bar Association of San Francisco

Certificated Mediator, the University of California, Berkeley

Hearing Officer Hears, decides, and renders binding awards under sections of the Health Code as a Hearing Officer under contract to the City and County of San Francisco

2007 to present Authors quarterly articles on avoiding professional liability (errors and omissions) claims for insurance and legal professionals

1980 to present Represents clients in over 1,000 mediations, arbitrations, administrative hearings, and mandatory settlement conferences in Federal and State Courts throughout the Western United States, in the American Arbitration Association, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA, and its predecessor, NASD), Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services, ADR Services, and Judicate West; and private mediators.

Areas of Expertise:

- Professional Liability: financial and professional services, including securities broker-dealers, insurance and real estate agents and brokers, lawyers, and accountants
- Insurance industry engagements: coverage analysis, case monitoring, insurance policy drafting, reinsurance arbitrations and audits, insurance regulation, and coverage litigation
- Catastrophic personal injury cases
- Large-scale construction claims arising from component defects
- Management liability: corporate governance disputes and lawsuits, including public and private companies; homeowners' associations and corporate directors and officers actions; employment claims; shareholder class actions and derivative actions; public agency governance issues; serves on and has chaired nonprofit boards of directors
- Commercial transactions and disputes in high-tech startups, buy-sell and unfair competition claims, and class actions under statutes such as the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and the Telephone Consumer Protection Act
- Civil Rights issues in disputes against public agencies, including First Amendment litigation under the Civil Rights Act

Education:

University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law, J.D. 1980
University of San Francisco, B.A. 1976 (Valedictorian, Student Body President)

Law Firm Employment:

July 2014 – present	Partner, Kaufman Dolowich & Voluck, LLP, San Francisco
May 1981 – July 2014	Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP, San Francisco (Partner 1987 to July 2014)
August 1980 – May 1981	Associate, Hall Henry Oliver & McCreavy, San Francisco

Professional Recognitions:

- Rated AV[®] Preeminent[™] by Martindale-Hubbell
- Northern California Super Lawyers, 2007-2018

Other Professional Activities:

- Award winning writer: has written a weekly humor column for the Half Moon Bay Review for 21 years, as well as quarterly columns on litigation avoidance for National Underwriter P&C 360 magazine, and the Daily Journal, California's newspaper for lawyers.
- Leader in education: chaired the Board of Directors of the Insurance Educational Association (ieatraining.com); developed many continuing education programs professionals; authored three chapters of Agents of America's series, *Insurance Agency Risk Management* (Thomson Reuters, 2013-2014), and two units of the revised curriculum for the Registered Professional Liability Underwriter (RPLU) designation, at the request of PLUS, the Professional Liability Underwriting Society; has lectured throughout the country on insurance, tort reform and technology issues; has twice chaired the PLUS D&O West Symposium, chaired the PLUS Events Committee, and has served on the PLUS International Conference Committee; is an invited lecturer at seminars sponsored by legal and insurance industry groups, including the California State Bar Association, Insurance Brokers and Agents of the West, Institute for International Research, American Conference Institute, Insurance Federation of New York, Association of Insurance Compliance Professionals, and Pacific Claims Executive Association; conducts mock trials at industry and professional organization meetings.

Philanthropy:

Founder and Chair of the Board of the Coastal Literary Arts Movement, a California nonprofit corporation that encourages literary and journalistic endeavors in Pacific Coast communities.