

# CASE EVALUATORS GWINNETT COUNTY

**Name: Charles W. Chesbro, Esq.**

**Telephone: 770-952-5000**

**Areas of Experience:** Account, Commercial, Construction, Contracts, Corporate, Domestic, Personal Injury, Property

**ADR Experience:** Currently a Magistrate Judge in Cobb County since 1990. Judge Chesbro has heard and decided hundreds of civil cases (jurisdiction up to \$15,000). He has been an adjunct professor at Kennesaw State University, since 1992 (Government, Mock Trial, Legal Research, and Negotiation). Institute for Continuing Judicial Education for Magistrate Recertification Faculty – Contracts, Trial, Evidence, etc. He has been an attorney at law since 1987, admitted in Georgia, Colorado, and District of Columbia.

Judge Chesbro has been mediating since 1992, beginning in Cobb Superior Court. He has also served as a certified Case Evaluator since 1993.

**Professional Experience:**

1990 - Present: Magistrate Court, Cobb County, Marietta, GA

1990 - Present: Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA

1989 - Present: Private Practice Attorney, Atlanta, GA

**Education:** Georgia State University Law School, J.D., 1987; University of Texas at El Paso, B.A., Business Administration, 1984.

**ADR Fees:** \$195 per hour

**Name: Joaquin Coello, Esq.**

**Telephone: 404- 822-6660**

**Areas of Experience:** Contracts, Employment Law, Insurance, Labor/Management, Personal Injury, Products Liability, **ADR Experience:** Mr. Coello has mediated for five years in over eighty cases involving torts, insurance, contracts, personal and domestic disputes. Mr. Coello is also fluent in Spanish and may conduct mediations in Spanish. He has also had specialized domestic violence training.

**Professional Experience:**

2008 - Present: Private Practice, Miami, FL

1992 - 2008: Private Practice, Atlanta GA

1990 - 1992: Coello & Wilder P.C., Partner-Law Firm, Doraville GA

1987 - 1990: Gilbert & Montlick, P.C. Staff Attorney, Decatur GA

1972 - 1987: Allstate Insurance Company, Miami Florida, Outside commercial adjuster, Investigated claims.

1970 - 1972: Crawford & Company, Miami, Florida, Insurance adjuster.

1968 - 1971: Associate Interpreters Inc. Miami, Florida, Spanish and English translation of written documents.

1966 - 1968: First National Bank of Miami-Miami, Florida, Collection agent.

1964 - 1966: Florida Gas Company-Miami Florida, Meter Reader

**Education:** Woodrow Wilson College of Law, Juris Doctor, 1984; Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida, BS 1970; Miami Dade Junior College, Miami, Florida, 1967

**ADR Fees:** \$200.00 an hour, or \$1000.00 daily, \$450.00 cancellation

**Name: Robert D. Feagin, Esq.**

**Telephone: 404-522-1500**

**Areas of Experience: Commercial, Contracts, Corporate, Employment Law, Insurance, Personal Injury, Products Liability, Prof. Liability/Malpractice, Property, Professional Responsibility, Probate, Real Estate.**

**ADR Experience:** Completed Mediator training in September 1999. Approved by the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution for General Mediation, Arbitration and Early Neutral Evaluation. He has arbitrated for twelve years and has mediated for 200 cases involving commercial and business disputes, personal injury claims, insurance coverage disputes and professional responsibility matters.

**Professional Experience:** Georgia trial lawyer (38 years), Adjunct Professor, School of Law, Emory University (10+ years) in Negotiations and Trial Practice. Member: Atlanta and American Bar Associations (Litigation and Dispute Resolution Sections), State Bar of Georgia (Board of Governors, 1980-1988), 11 Cir. & 5 Cir. Court of Appeals, Supreme Court of the U.S. (1971), Tax Court, Georgia Court of Appeals and Supreme Court.

1992 - Present: Self-employed, of counsel Decker, Hallman, Barber & Briggs, Atlanta, Georgia

1963 - 1992: Gambrell and Mobley; Atlanta, Georgia

1963 - 1963: U.S. Department of Justice; Atlanta, Georgia

1961 - 1963 Administrative Office U.S. Courts; Atlanta, Georgia

**Education:** Emory University, JD, 1962; Emory University, 1959, BA.

**ADR Fees:** \$150.00 per side scheduling fee, \$200.00 per hour, \$300 cancellation fee if less than 24 hours notice.

**Name: Gayle C. Friedman, Esq.**

**Telephone: 404-256-5200**

**Areas of Experience: Commercial, Construction, Contracts, Corporate, Criminal, Domestic, Insurance, Personal Injury, Probate**

**ADR Experience:** Ms. Friedman has ten years total ADR experience. Ms. Friedman has seven years of mediation experience in over 150 cases of all types. She has extensive domestic mediation experience. Ms. Friedman has eight years of arbitration experience in over 200 cases of all types. She has experience in both binding and non-binding arbitration. Her experience includes arbitration as a panel member and as a sole arbitrator. Ms. Friedman has also done some case evaluations for personal injury cases, but she has declined other opportunities for case evaluations due to scheduling conflicts. In the past, Ms. Friedman has held a Virginia Real Estate License and a License for Life and Health Insurance in Georgia in addition to her law license.

**Professional Experience:**

1997 - Present: Referee for Fulton County Superior Court in Arbitration of Ad Valorem Property Tax Appeal (Real Estate).

1982 - Present: Private Practice, Atlanta, Georgia.

**Education:** Atlanta Law School, JD, 1981; Western College for Women (part of Miami of Ohio), BA, 1967.

**ADR Fees:** \$200.00 per hour.

**Name: Steven J. Gold, Esq.**

**Telephone: 404-377-1161**

**Areas of Experience: Commercial, Contracts, Corporate, Insurance, Personal Injury, Products Liability, Property.**

**ADR Experience:** Beginning in 1998, average 2 to 3 cases per week as an ADR neutral (mediator, case evaluator, and arbitrator) in court-annexed programs in DeKalb, Cobb, Gwinnett, Fulton, 7<sup>th</sup> Judicial District and 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, NASD, in private session and through Henning Mediation and Arbitration Service. NASD Arbitration Panelist and Chairperson.

**Professional Experience:**

Practicing attorney in Georgia since 1984. Legal career began as in-house attorney for Rich's Department Stores handling general corporate, contracts, general liability, EEO, and workers compensation from defense perspective for 4 years. Then went into private practice doing plaintiff's person injury and general civil.

**Education:** Emory Law School, JD, 1983. Antioch College, Yellow Springs OH, 1973.

**ADR Fees:** \$150.00 per hour, 2 hour minimum; cancellation fees: two hours if less than 24 hour notice.

**Name: Daniel E. Gulden, Esq.**

**Telephone: 404-847-9529**

**Areas of Experience: Banking/Finance, Commercial, Contracts, Corporate, Employment Law, Insurance, Labor/Management, Personal Injury, Property, Probate.**

**ADR Experience:**

**Mediation:** 4½ years and several hundred cases of mediation experience involving the following: divorce, personal injury, business, commercial/contract, securities, probate, real estate, accounting, multi-party, employment.

**Arbitration:** 6 years and 150-200 cases of arbitration experience involving the following: personal injury, business/contract, securities, accounting, fraud, lemon law.

**Case Evaluation:** 3 years and 20-30 cases of case evaluation experience involving business/contract and personal injury.

Mr. Gulden is now in private practice with an emphasis on alternative dispute resolution and has mediated and arbitrated a wide variety of cases. He is a mediator and arbitrator for DeKalb and Fulton County courts and the American Arbitration Assn. (AAA); a mediator for the Justice Center of Atlanta, Cobb County, the 9th Judicial Admin. District and the Western Judicial Circuit; and a securities arbitrator for the New York Stock Exchange and the National Assn. of Securities Dealers. He is a mentor in the DeKalb multi-door courthouse program. He has also participated in mediator and arbitrator training for various organizations, including ICLE, AAA, NASD and Lorman, and is a member of the Society for Professionals in Dispute Resolution, the Academy of Family Mediators, the Family Mediation Assn. of Georgia, and the Georgia (ADR, Fiduciary, Family & Gen. Practice & Trial Law sections), Atlanta (ADR, Family and Tax Law sections), and American (Dispute Resolution and Gen. Practice sections) Bar Assns.

**Professional Experience:** Mr. Gulden served as an attorney with the Office of Chief Counsel for the IRS and as chief administrative officer and in-house counsel for a steel manufacturer.

**Education:** Georgetown University Law Center, LL.M., Tax, 1973; Emory University Law School, J.D., 1969; Dartmouth College, A.B., 1966

**ADR Fees:** \$250.00 per hour capped at \$1,800.00 per day

**Name: Floyd C. Hale, Esq.**

**Telephone: 678-402-6238**

**Areas of Experience: Business, Commercial, Person-injury, Contract, Divorce, Construction, Wrongful-death, Product-liability, Employment, Environmental, Securities, Stockholder, Partnership.**

**ADR Experience:** Since 1987 Floyd Hale has limited his practice to serving as a mediator, an arbitrator, and trainer of mediators. He has mediated approximately 2,000 cases. He has mediated cases in New York, Washington D.C., Illinois, Arkansas, Ohio, Oklahoma, Florida, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, and throughout Georgia. He has mediated hundreds of settlements, including one involving 86 named plaintiffs in an environmental case and another involving six corporate defendants and their insurers and numerous cross claims in a personal-injury case. He is skilled and experienced in mediating cases involving strong emotions and large numbers of participants. Mr. Hale also has broad experience as an arbitrator in a variety of cases, including one involving \$28 million. Before limiting his practice to serving as a neutral, he spent more than 20 years as a litigation attorney (16 years), as an inside corporate attorney, and as an adjunct professor of law.

**Professional Experience:**

1987-Present: Mediator, Trainer of Mediators & Arbitrator (as an independent contractor)

1987: Georgia Division of Public Health, consultant.

1973-1986: U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, trial attorney and supervisory trial attorney

1972-1973: The Emory University School of Law, legal aid clinic director.

1969-1970: The Emory University School of Law, adjunct professor of law.

1969-1972: Atlanta Legal Aid Society, Inc., attorney and managing attorney.

1964-1969: Lockheed Aircraft Corp., management trainee and attorney.

**Education:** University of Chicago Law School, J.D., 1964; Emory University, A.B., Economics, 1961

**ADR Fees:** \$150 per hour

**Name: Dr. Arline S. Kerman, Esq.**

**Telephone: 770-642-1100**

**Available only for custody, divorce with custody, or change of custody.**

**ADR Experience:** Dr. Kerman has been mediating since 1994 in the areas of divorce and custody. She is a member of the Academy of Family Mediators and Family Mediation Association of Georgia. She is also a registered arbitrator, case evaluator/domestic relations, guardian ad litem.

**Professional Experience:** Dr. Kerman has been engaged in the practice of law for almost 20 years. She has been primarily a custody lawyer who has devoted over half of her practice to custody litigation and/or divorce with contested custody issues. In addition to her J.D., she has a Master of Arts in Psychology and a Ph.D. in Psychology. In addition she has completed the four classes in Marriage and Family Therapy which were offered through the University of Georgia. Most of Dr. Kerman's master's program was devoted to the exceptional child which has enabled her to work with children in law practice and to be more effective in her mediation practice. She is a member of Georgia Psychological Association, American Psychological Association, Georgia Bar Association, Atlanta Bar Association, and the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association. She is able to practice in all of the Georgia courts including the U.S. District Court, U.S. Court of Appeals, and the Supreme Court of the U.S. [www.georgiachildcustody.com](http://www.georgiachildcustody.com)

**Education:** U.S.I.U. (San Diego), Ph.D., Psychology, 1975; U.S.I.U. (San Diego), M.A., Psychology, 1973; University of Baltimore, J.D., 1961; University of Baltimore, A.A., 1958.

**ADR Fees:** \$150 per hour. Night and weekends via tele-conferencing.

**Name: Robert N. Leitch, Esq.**

**Telephone: 404-370-0890; Email: LeitchADR@aol.com**

**Areas of Experience: Business/Commercial, Class Actions, Collections, Construction, Divorce, Employment, Home Warranty, Life Insurance, Medical Malpractice, Non-compete/Non-solicitation Clauses, Partnership Dissolution, Olympic and Pan-American athletic competition, Personal Injury (soft tissue to wrongful death), Premises Liability, Probate, Products Liability, Real Estate, Securities, Sexual Harassment, and Zoning**

**ADR Experience:** Limiting his practice to being a neutral since 1990, Mr. Leitch has conducted mediation, arbitration, and case evaluation of over 1000 cases. He is registered in general mediation, domestic relations mediation, arbitration and early neutral evaluation/case evaluation with the Georgia Office of Dispute Resolution. He is on the approved lists of neutrals for the American Arbitration Association, Inc. (Commercial, Sports and Mediation Panels), Henning Mediation & Arbitration Service, Inc. and several Georgia court annexed programs including Clayton, Cobb, Cherokee, DeKalb, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett and Hall counties.

**Professional Experience:** A member of the Georgia Bar since 1974; legal experience as Associate Judge of Cobb County Juvenile Court, as assistant public defender in DeKalb County and in a general private practice. Member of the State Bar of Georgia (ADR section), Atlanta Bar(ADR Section), DeKalb Bar, Atlanta Lawyers Club, the American Arbitration Association and various other organizations of neutrals. Part time Judge in DeKalb Magistrate Court, DeKalb State Court; and Decatur Municipal Court.

**Education:** Emory University School of Law, J.D., 1974; Fairfield University, B.A. 1969; London School of Economics and Political Science, Independent Study 1966-67

**ADR Fees:** \$300.00 per hour, \$500.00 late cancellation fee

**Name: Carol A. Levine, Esq.**

**Telephone: 770-993-2994**

**Areas of Experience: Personal injury, Employment law, Discrimination claims, Medical malpractice, Insurance claims.**

**ADR Experience:** 17 years experience as mediator and arbitrator 750-1000+ cases

**Professional Experience:** Full time mediator and arbitrator, 14 years former civil litigation practice. Extensive experience teaching mediation/arbitration courses, Panelist at ADR seminars

**Education:** Woodrow Wilson College of Law, J.D., 1983; Admitted to Bar 1983; Georgia State University, A.S. Mental Health, 1975; Emory University, B.A., 1964.

**ADR Fees:** \$200 per hour

**Name: James J. Pirkle, Esq.**

**Telephone: 770-491-6257**

**Areas of Experience:** Banking/Finance, Commercial, Contracts, Corporate, Government, Health Care, Insurance, Labor/Management, Personal Injury, Property, Zoning/Land, Federal/State Government Contracts.

**ADR Experience:** Civil Mediation, Arbitration and Case Evaluation experience handling types of cases such as:

**Mediation:** Over a year in mediation with such cases as personal injury, contracts, finance and criminal.

**Arbitration:** Over seven years and 250 cases with the Fulton and DeKalb County ADR programs in the area of personal injury, probate, corporate law, real estate, civil fraud, government, and most types of negligence cases.

**Case Evaluation:** Approximately 50 cases involving contracts, negligence, personal injury, real estate, probate and finance.

**Professional Experience:** Employed with the Federal Government for over twenty years in various capacities several agencies, as a legal advisor; contracting officer for NASA; management official; finance officer, and adjudication official. Concurrent with the previous employment, special authorization was held to permit engaging in a private law practice. Practice included: contracts; finance; probate; real estate; corporations; representation of clients whose interests involved the Federal/State Governments. Three years as Summary Court Judge for Edisto Beach, Colleton County, S.C. with trial jurisdiction for criminal cases. Presently practicing law in the field of contracts, finance and alternate dispute resolution processes.

**Education:** Woodrow Wilson College of Law, Atlanta, GA., 1975, J. D.; Rollins College, Winter Park, FL., 1967, Masters in Management Science; University of Georgia, 1957, B. S.

**ADR Fees:** \$125.00 per hour, with 2 hour minimum..

**Name: G. Michael Smith, Esq.**

**Telephone: 770-458-9834**

**Areas of Experience: Commercial, Contracts, Corporate, Health Care, Personal Injury, and Prof. Liability/Malpractice**

**ADR Experience:**

**Mediation:** Within the past 2 years, Mr. Smith has mediated cases involving Business/Corporate Disputes and Personal Injury/Negligence Matters.

**Arbitration:** Mr. Smith has been a member of AAA since 1978 and has arbitrated 6 cases in the area of business dispute.

**Professional Experience:**

1984 - Present: Partner in law firm of Dean, Smith & Therrell, P. A.

Mr. Smith is primarily engaged in business and corporate legal matters with a certain amount of personal injury work. With regard to the personal injury work, he does primarily plaintiffs' work. However, for the last 13 years he has represented Industrial Fire and Casualty Insurance Co., (now Oak Insurance Co.) in defense work and has on two occasions, represented Lloyds of London on wrongful death actions. He is versed in both plaintiff and defense personal injury matters. Regarding the business and corporate work he represents numerous fast food franchisees such as Burger King, Wendy's, Checkers, Days Inns, Quality Inns, and numerous ethnic and Mexican restaurants.

He represents manufacturers, manufacturers representatives, various retailer automotive shops and dealers and has worked on various business acquisitions and mergers, developments, and real estate development deals. He has hands on experience in business transactions in Cayman Islands, B.W.I., Barbados, Turks and Caicos Islands, Jamaica, Pakistan and Korea.

**Education:** John Marshall Law School, J.D., 1975; St. Peter's College, New Jersey, B.S., 1971; University College, National University of Ireland, Dublin, Honors Program History, 1970

**ADR Fees:** \$125.00 per party per hour and \$100.00 per party administrative fee.

**Updated 1/14/10**