



Hon. Harriet O'Neill

Austin, Texas



### Professional Summary

Retired from the Texas Supreme Court in 2010 after nearly 18 years of distinguished judicial service, then founded own law firm where advocates before courts and serves as an arbitrator and mediator. Draws on over 40 years of complex civil litigation and appellate experience to resolve disputes in a wide variety of areas including energy, business and commercial relations, intellectual property, insurance, environmental and utility regulation, technology, oil and gas, and torts, with a strong record of success in multiparty mediations.

### Current Employer-Title

Law Office of Harriet O'Neill, PC – President

### Profession

Judge (Ret.), Attorney, Arbitrator, Mediator, Consultant

### Work History

President, Law Office of Harriet O'Neill, PC, 2010 - Present; Justice, Supreme Court of Texas, 1999 – 2010; Justice, 14th District Court of Appeals State of Texas, 1995 – 1998; Judge, 152nd District Court State of Texas, 1993 – 1995; Attorney, sole practitioner, 1986 – 1992; Attorney, Morris & Campbell, 1984 – 1986; Attorney, Porter & Clements, 1982 – 1984.

### Experience

As an appellate and civil trial judge, gained legal experience in a wide variety of civil cases, including contract and business disputes, regulatory matters, constitutional issues, statutory interpretation, insurance coverage, personal injury, mass tort, class actions, sovereign immunity, natural resources and water rights, environmental and utility regulation, pollution, condemnation, boundary disputes, wills and estates, securities regulation, oil and gas, renewable energy, nuclear power, property ownership and partition, divorce and marital estates, government powers, among others.

Consistently highly rated jurist in local and statewide Bar Polls. Twice named

*Hon. Harriet O'Neill*  
*Neutral ID : 158006*

The AAA's Rules provide the AAA with the authority to administer a mediation including, mediator appointment, general oversight and billing. Accordingly, mediations that proceed without AAA administration are not considered AAA mediations, even when the parties select an mediator who is on the AAA's Roster.

The information contained in this resume has been supplied solely by the individual mediator and may, or may not, be a complete recitation of their experience. The AAA assumes no responsibility for the content, completeness, accuracy, or reliability of the information contained in a mediator's resume. If you have any questions about a mediator's experience or background, you are encouraged to contact your case manager.

Mediators on the AAA Roster are not employees or agents of the AAA.

Appellate Judge of the Year (2002 and 2006) by Texas Association of Civil Trial and Appellate Specialists, a highly coveted professional recognition.

In over two decades of private practice before taking, and after leaving, the bench, gained extensive experience in complex disputes, including oil and gas, renewable energy, contract and lease disputes, business valuation, corporate transactions, insurance, products liability, intellectual property, among others.

**Mediator Experience**

One of the first class of certified mediators in Texas in 1980s; developed successful mediation practice in complex business and civil disputes with very high settlement rate, including in the areas of personal injury, business and contract disputes, antitrust, RICO, product liability, oil and gas, medical malpractice, intellectual property and trade-secret theft, foreign energy concessions, renewable energy, to name a few.

Co-taught class in alternative dispute resolution through South Texas College of Law in summer of 2002; participated as panel member in judicial education regarding alternative dispute resolution.

Since retirement from the bench, have conducted 20+ mediations in complex cases involving disputes over business dealings and contracts, indemnification, personal injury, defamation, mortgage-backed securities investment, legal malpractice, construction, governmental takings, gas gathering operations, oil & gas royalty, and theft of trade secrets.

**Mediator Style & Process Preferences**

I spend a considerable amount of time before the mediation reviewing the case background and substantive case filings, and caucusing virtually with the attorneys/parties to get a good sense of the legal and factual contentions and the parties' respective positions. That allows me to facilitate a knowledgeable exchange of information in advance of the mediation, with the goal of having an offer on the table, and perhaps even a counter, before we begin the Mediation Day. The Mediation Day, then, is devoted to guiding a more informed risk assessment and deeper dive as to the parties' needs and potential solutions. My style depends upon the needs of the particular case and the personalities involved in the decision making process.

**Technology Proficiency**

Willing to conduct mediations in-person, via videoconference/teleconference (familiar with online platforms like Zoom, Loop Up, Teams), or hybrid formats. Familiar with managing ESI.

**Education**

University of South Carolina School of Law (JD, Society of Wig and Robe-1982); Converse College (BA, with Honors-1978).

**Professional Licenses**

Admitted to the Bar: Texas (1982); U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit.

**Professional Associations**

American Law Institute; Texas Bar Foundation; State Bar of Texas.

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**Recent Publications & Speaking Engagements**

Frequent speaker and author of many legal articles in addition to legal opinions. Presenter at various legal seminars on topics of interest to trial lawyers, appellate lawyers and corporate counsel. Consistently rated a top seminar presenter on topics such as measure of damages, trial and appellate procedure, evidence standards and proof techniques, appellate review standards, and legal updates.

**Citizenship  
Languages**

United States of America  
English

**Compensation**

Hearing: \$750.00/Hr  
Study: \$650.00/Hr  
Cancellation: \$4900.00/Day  
Cancellation Period: 21 Days  
Comment: Reasonable expense reimbursement.

No charge for travel time within continental U.S.

Hearing rate applies to final arbitration hearing, pre-trial hearings (including preliminary hearing conference) and Panel conferences.

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