

Paul Taylor : Mediator CV



I have taken part in scores of mediations, in England, Europe and the U.S. Many of these mediations have been multi-party disputes, covering complex contractual, insurance, construction and professional indemnity questions. I have negotiated literally thousands of settlements, and have vast experience in resolving matters without recourse to litigation or arbitration. I have always enjoyed the process of negotiation and mediation.

PRE-MEDIATION

Because the mediation process and events on the day or days of mediation meetings should be tailored to suit the parties, it is key that they are content with the extent to which the mediator has been briefed and the amount of information that they have exchanged before they meet. I prefer to speak to all parties beforehand, either by conference call or in separate calls, to ensure that the mediation meetings will at least start with a spirit of co-operation and common purpose.

MEDIATION MEETINGS

These have too often become formulaic and predictable. The mediator is there to facilitate, not to bully or command. I look to create an informal, relaxed and focussed atmosphere, discouraging grandstanding. Every individual at the mediation should be encouraged to make their own contribution, if only in the context of seeking agreement. Every mediation is unique, and has to be approached creatively and energetically.

POST-MEDIATION

So often, the parties are unable to clinch a deal on the day, and I am always keen to remain involved, if there continues to be a prospect of settlement. This is usually best done by phone calls or, if a party insists, by further meetings of all or a selection of the parties.

MY BACKGROUND

Having studied law at King's College, London and qualified as a solicitor in 1969, I became a Partner in Berrymans in 1973, Senior

Partner in 1991 and then Senior Partner of the merged practice of Berryman Luce Mawer in 1997. In 2006, I retired from BLM and have since practiced as an independent consultant and mediator continuing to specialise in professional indemnity, construction, insurance and environmental disputes. I have acted in cases in over 30 jurisdictions.

BOOKS ETC

I have written, either as editor or co-author, Bingham's Motor Claims Cases, Berryman's Building Claims Cases and Construction Law and the Environment, and contributed to a number of papers and books, largely on risk management and construction / insurance topics, both in the UK and internationally. I advised for some years on the FIDIC White Book and several of FIDIC's Standard Form Agreements and have prepared many papers and lectures, presenting these widely, in Europe, the U.S and the Middle and Far East.

MEMBERSHIPS

I am a Member of the Institution of Engineering and Technology, a Member of the Chartered Institute of Insurance and a Member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators. I am also a Member of the International Association of Defense Council, a Liveryman of the City Solicitors' Company and a Member of the Society of Construction Law and the Technology and Construction Solicitors' Association.