

Peter W. Benner, Esquire
(860) 337-1882

Practice

- 28 years as a partner at Shipman & Goodwin, LLP in Hartford Connecticut
- practiced in the area of commercial litigation handling complex, multiparty disputes both in Connecticut and in courts throughout the country
- Served for 10 years, through 2000, as Chair of the firm's Commercial Litigation Practice Group and for four years, through 2003, on the Management Committee
- Areas of practice, representing plaintiffs and defendants, included business, healthcare, financial, real estate, bankruptcy, employment, franchise, antitrust and unfair trade practice matters

Commitment to and accomplishments in alternative dispute resolution in litigation practice and as a mediator and arbitrator led to starting own dispute resolution practice in January, 2010

- Focus is entirely on dispute resolution as mediator, arbitrator and facilitator
- Assists attorneys and their clients by providing services as an independent neutral, bringing to the process proven record of solving problems without protracted litigation, as well as experience and well-established ability to find cost-effective means of resolving conflicts

Experience

- Highly qualified and successful mediator
- Sole and panel arbitrator in complex arbitrations
- Chair of the Federal Grievance Committee of the U.S. District Court for District of Connecticut, 2004-2009
- Recipient, 2010, Raymond Green Award for Distinguished Service to the Federal Grievance Committee
- Chair of the Section of Alternative Dispute Resolution of the Connecticut Bar Association, 2005-2007
- Special Master for the U.S. District Court for District of Connecticut since 1997
- Chair of a Connecticut Bar Association arbitration panel for attorney fee disputes since 1996
- Publications: "Supreme Court Vacates Class Arbitrator Ruling in Bazzle," Conflict Management, Volume VI, Summer, 2003; "Second Circuit Precludes Taking Arbitrator's Deposition for Manifest Disregard", Conflict Management, Winter, 2004; "Building Positive Relationships", Alternative Dispute Resolution Client Strategies, 2007

In addition to his years of experience, Mr. Benner has received substantial and in-depth dispute resolution training, including the American Arbitration Association Commercial Arbitrator I and II Training; Harvard Law School, Program on Negotiation, June 2004; AAA Arbitrator Roundtable: The Revised Commercial Arbitrator Code of Ethics, February 2004; Center for Mediation in Law "Contracting" in Mediation, Fall, 2003; Center for Mediation in Law, Intensive Mediation Training Program, December 2002

- Undergraduate degree from Princeton University (Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, with high honors)
- Law degree from Georgetown University (Executive Board of Georgetown Law Journal)
- After law school served as a Law Clerk to Judge Thomas A. Flannery of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia

Professional and Community Activities

- Active in the American Bar Association and Connecticut Bar Association Dispute Resolution Sections
- Member of the American Health Lawyers Association (dispute resolution panel)
- Hands on Hartford, Board Member, 2009 to present
- The Gathering Place, co-founder and Board Chair 1999-2005
- Greater Hartford Citizens Network Steering Committee, 2005-2007
- Avid cyclist and regularly competes in triathlons, including the 1995 Ironman Triathlon World Championship in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii

Peter resides with his spouse Catherine, who teaches in the West Hartford Schools, and they have three daughters and two granddaughters.