

CONTACT

PHONE: 626.389.5001 CELL: 626.803.3330

WEBSITE: www.letssettlenow.com

BENNETT ROOT

Mediator | Arbitrator | Fact Finder

CURRENT FOCUS:

Bennett (Ben) Root serves the community as a mediator, arbitrator, and fact finder. As a neutral, Ben is able to marshal years of legal and business experience to assist businesses and individuals in resolving disputes discreetly through negotiations or mediations, and when needed, to decide contested issues through arbitration. In appropriate cases, for example when harassment is an issue, Ben serves as an independent and neutral fact investigator to help bring contested matters to a fair and balanced resolution.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY:

Bennett Root has over 40 years' experience as an advocate, a negotiator, and a counsellor at law. Ben has refined the skills and techniques that make him a master at resolution of disputes—business and commercial disputes, labor and employment disputes, personal, public interest, and community disputes. He is trained, certified, experienced, and highly skilled.

As a senior partner at a very large, international law firm, he tackled major disputes in Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, and Washington DC. After his first retirement, he founded a small firm to represent dreamers, entrepreneurs and start-up businesses in Southern California. He has developed and overseen implementation of dispute resolution processes for employers who wanted to maintain a positive work environment for their employees. Ben has been helping people resolve their disputes for his entire professional career.

In addition to his work as an attorney, Ben has served as a corporate CEO, as a Chief Legal Officer, and as a member of a business development and patent development teams. He has served on Boards of Directors for private and charitable organizations, including on the Board of Visitors



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for the Humanities Institute of the University of Michigan, and as a member of various Executive Committees for the California Bar and community organizations, including serving as a Commissioner and an Officer for Los Angeles County's Mental Health Commission and Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs.

EXPERIENCE AND SELECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Legal:

- Twenty-Five plus years' experience as Senior Partner at a leading international law firm
- Fifteen plus years' experience as a Founding Partner of a small, boutique law firm
- Principal and/or supervising attorney on wide range of controversy and transactional matters
- Negotiated various asset and stock agreements for purchase, sale or merger of companies; set-up and helped finance start-up and development stage companies
- Developed and managed dispute resolution and risk management programs
- Counseled regarding employment matters including election certification, collective bargaining, civil and individual rights, and harassment matters
- Developed and patented new product design and created patent protection strategy
- Lead start-up company through development stage to commercialization
- Directed overall legal, IP and patent strategies for technology enterprises
- Created a license strategy and negotiated agreements for international distribution

Business:

- Designed and implemented business plans and structures for start-up companies in production and manufacturing, software and media business verticals
- Raised equity seed funding and debt for development stage businesses
- Served as principal broker on various business opportunity and real estate transactions in Los Angeles, Riverside and Orange counties
- Developed diversity programs and strategies and communication programs for companies trying to reach segments of their employment and customer base
- Developed and implemented strategic vision and built teams necessary to launch technology



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EMPLOYMENT:

2023 to Date

Mediation Center of Los Angeles | Executive Director 2022 to Date

Riverside Superior Court | Mediator

2021 to Date

Let's Settle Now | Mediator, Arbitrator, & Fact Finder 2004 to Date

Bennett Root Group, LLC | Principal

2018 to 2024

VenaResources, Inc. | Chief Legal Officer 2004 to 2023

KLR Law, LLP dba Nano Law Group | Founding Partner 1999-2004

Safety Associates, Inc. | Chairman and Chief Executive 1995-1999

SAI, Tustin, California | President

1977-1994

Latham & Watkins | Partner

1969-1977

L&W, Los Angeles, California | Associate Attorney

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS:

B.A., University of Michigan, Economics, with Distinction

J.D., Harvard University, cum laude

LLM, Pepperdine University

Certified 2021—40 Hours Training, Mediate.com, DRPA Compliant

Various Post Graduate Programs, including Straus Institute Certificate (Dispute Resolution); Oxford University (Comparative Labor Law); University of Phoenix (MBA, Marketing); Aspen Institute (Executive Program)

MEMBERSHIPS AND ACTIVITIES:

American Bar Association (05816674) Active

California Bar Association (045847) Active

SCMA, 2022, Active

California DRE Broker's License: (01712779) Inactive

FINRA Series 82 License (CDR# 6855331) Inactive

Commissioner, Los Angeles County Mental Health Commission (Dept. of Mental Health)

Commissioner, Los Angeles County Alcohol and Drug Commission (Dept. of Health Services)

Board of Visitors, University of Michigan, Institute for Humanities 1976-1990

Aspen Institute, Fellow 1985 to 1992