



John Derrick, mediator

John Derrick is a Santa Barbara-based mediator who handles cases throughout Southern California and beyond. His diplomatic skills, empathy, and perseverance help parties to difficult disputes get to a negotiated resolution. He offers reasonable rates, and a choice of mediating in person or over Zoom.

John's mediation practice draws on his experience as an appellate lawyer. Before making mediation the focus of his practice, he litigated around 200 appeals — including many resulting in published decisions — and consulted in countless others. He is certified as a Specialist in Appellate Law by the State Bar of California's Board of Legal Specialization.

John began mediating cases in 2008 when he went on the Court of Appeal mediation panel in Los Angeles. In 2018, he completed the nationally top-rated, intensive mediation training program offered by Pepperdine's Straus Institute of Dispute Resolution. He became a Settlement Master for the Santa Barbara Superior Court in 2019. And in 2023, he joined the court's CADRe approved private mediation, CMADRESS, and Limited Mediation panels. He is the 2024 co-Chair of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Section of the Santa Barbara County Bar Association.

John received his law degree from the University of California at Berkeley. And he received his undergraduate degree in philosophy, politics and economics from the University of Oxford in Britain, graduating with First Class Honours, the highest class of undergraduate degree awarded by that university.

John was the 2014-2015 Chair of the California State Bar's Standing Committee on Appellate Courts, and from 2011-2013, he served as Editor-in-Chief of *California Litigation*, then the journal of the Litigation Section of the State Bar. He later served on the Executive Committee of the Litigation Section of the California Lawyers Association. He has also taught as a practitioner-advisor in the Berkeley Law Appellate Advocacy program.