



## Hon. John A. Ward, (Ret.) Illinois

Hon. John A. Ward, (Ret.) is a senior mediator and arbitrator at ADR Systems with extensive experience in the resolution of personal injury cases arising from vehicular accidents, construction negligence, premises liability, medical negligence, nursing home, workers' compensation and product liability. He is also experienced in the resolution of commercial matters arising from professional malpractice, insurance coverage and contract matters. Judge Ward's ability to quickly understand the issue at hand and gain the respect and trust of all parties is well known throughout the legal community.

### Types of Cases Resolved

- Accounting Malpractice
- Auto Liability
- Aviation
- Class Action
- Condominium Board Dispute
- Construction
- Contract
- Environmental
- Federal Employers Liability Act (FELA)
- Insurance Coverage
- Legal Malpractice
- Medical Malpractice
- Nursing Home
- Personal Injury
- Premises Liability
- Product Liability
- Professional Malpractice
- Property Damage
- Qui Tam
- Retaliatory Discharge
- Securities
- Sexual Abuse
- Subrogation
- Whistleblower
- Workers' Compensation

### ADR Experience and Qualifications

- 22-year judicial career including serving in the Law Division, 1991-2010; General Individual Calendar, 2004-2010; Administrative/Assignment Judge (Room 2005), 2002-2004, 1991-1992; Tax
- Mediated many significant multi-party workers' compensation cases with complicated issues
- For 10 years while assigned to the Cook County Circuit Court's Law Division Tax and Miscellaneous

and Miscellaneous Remedies Section, 1992-2002;  
First Municipal District, 1988-1991

- Legal career including serving as Assistant Attorney General for Illinois Attorney General's Office litigating environmental, securities, tort and civil rights actions, 1983-1988; Assistant State's Attorney in Criminal Trial Division of the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, 1980-1983; Associate at Boodell, Sears, Sugrue, Giambalvo & Crowley, securities and civil practice, 1979-1980

Section, Judge Ward heard hundreds of reviews from decisions of the Illinois Workers' Compensation Board (formerly the Illinois Industrial Commission)

- While on the bench from 2009-2010, Judge Ward settled more than 250 cases with a total value exceeding \$40 million

## Representative Cases

- *Waugh v. Morgan Stanley*: Consolidated aviation wrongful death cases presenting issues of pilot error, product liability and corporate policies
- *Kil v. Decker*: Wrongful death and brain injury case involving issues of driver negligence, agency, insurance coverage and ICC
- *Am2pat litigation*: Consolidated wrongful death and injury claims arising from allegedly tainted medical product
- *Wood v. Advocate*: Wrongful termination case involving department head physician
- *Murphy-Smith v. City of Chicago*: Consolidated wrongful death and injury cases involving issues of statutory liability, tort immunity and premises
- *Wilson v. Hinsdale Hospital*: Allegations of negligently administered epidural injection leading to spine injury
- Settled several dozen medical malpractice cases as a mediator

## Professional Activities and Awards

- Appointed by the Illinois Supreme Court to the Illinois Courts Commission, a seven-member panel responsible for rendering final decisions on matters of judicial discipline
- Mentoring Judge, Circuit Court Mentoring Program
- Recipient, Celtic Man of the Year Award, Celtic Legal Society

## Education

- J.D., Northwestern University Law School, *Dean's List*
- B.A., Marquette University, *magna cum laude*
  - Dean's Award for Outstanding Graduate in Economics

## Admissions

- Illinois State Bar
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois