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Two United Plaza
Suite 904
8550 United Plaza Blvd.
Baton Rouge, LA 70809
resolutions@maps-adr.com



Vincent P. Fornias
Mediator, Arbitrator, Umpire

South Louisiana

Mr. Fornias

is a bilingual Cuban-American, and has participated in over 3000 mediations and scores of arbitrations and insurance umpire proceedings spanning six states. For almost 30 years, he was engaged in an active litigation practice (over 100 trials) as a partner of Kantrow, Spaht, Weaver & Blitzler of Baton Rouge where he specialized in the areas of casualty, products liability, governmental liability, and insurance law. Mr. Fornias has written in numerous legal publications, including authoring of a chapter in "Louisiana Civil Trial Procedure." He has also lectured extensively in the fields of litigation, mediation, negotiation, ethics and professionalism in numerous Continuing Legal Education programs and law school settings, including the LSBA, LSU Law Center, Tulane University Law Center, Southern University Law Center, Louisiana Association of Defense Counsel, Baton Rouge Bar Association, and National Business Institute, Inc. He is also an award-winning humor writer in both the Baton Rouge Bar Journal and the Louisiana Bar Journal.

Education

Jesuit (New Orleans) High School (Valedictorian), 1971
Louisiana State University, B.A., (Metro New Orleans Valedictorian), 1974
J.D., Louisiana State University Law Center, (Order of the Coif), 1977

Memberships/Affiliations

Charter member: LSU Law Center Alumni Board of Directors; Elected member: Louisiana State Bar Association House of Delegates, 19th Judicial District (1992-2007); Member: LSBA Lawyer Dispute Resolution Program (1999-2007); Member and chair of hearing committee, Louisiana Attorney Disciplinary Board (2000-2005).

Awards

Selected to both Super Lawyers® and The Best Lawyers in America®, as chosen by his peers, in the field of Alternative Dispute Resolution; Achieved the highest rating ("AV") by Martindale-Hubbell legal directory, as evaluated by his peers; LSBA's Stephen T. Victory Award, 1996; Baton Rouge Bar Association President's Award, 1998 and 2006; LSU Law Center Hall of Fame; One of six (6) Louisiana lawyers appointed on a bipartisan basis to serve on the appeals panel of Deepwater Horizon Economic and Property Damage Settlement Program, the largest environmental settlement in U.S. history.

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