



Joan C. Thomas, Esq. is on NCRC's Divorce Mediation Panel.

Ms. Thomas is an experienced lawyer and divorce mediator. She was first admitted to the Bar in Canada in 1982 and practiced real estate law until 1994 when she moved to California. Prior to that, Ms. Thomas was a practicing social worker. Since arriving in California, Ms. Thomas has practiced family law and been a divorce mediator. The combination of legal, mediation and social work training, coupled with extensive experience as a lawyer and mediator enables Ms. Thomas to competently handle divorce mediation cases.

RESOLUTION EXPERTISE

- Ms. Thomas has handled over 300 family law mediation cases, including divorce, paternity, domestic partnerships and post judgment matters.
- Training in mediation includes 60 hours of Divorce Mediation training with Coast to Coast Mediation, 25 hours of Civil Mediation Training with the National Conflict Resolution Center and 20 hours of Advanced Family Law Mediation Training with Pepperdine University.

REPRESENTATIVE CASES

- Divorces with issues that include real and personal property division, custody and visitation of children, spousal and child support, business interests, separate property interests

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- NCRC Divorce Mediation Panel, 1998 to present
- Sole practitioner in San Diego specializing in family law and divorce mediation, 1997 to 2004
- Coordinator of Family Law Access Program for San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program, 1996 to 1997
- Sole practitioner in San Diego, 1995 to 1996
- Sole practitioner in Calgary, Canada, 1987 to 1994
- Corporate attorney for Unocal Canada, Calgary, Canada, 1984 to 1987
- Articling student and lawyer for Code Hunter, Calgary, Canada, 1982 to 1984
- Social worker in variety of positions in Canada, 1975 to 1978.

SPECIAL HONORS AND MEMBERSHIPS

- Member of State Bar of California
- Member of Association for Conflict Resolution
- Member of San Diego County Bar Association

EDUCATION

- Legal Education , Bachelor of Laws (LLB), University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, 1982
- Pre,Law Education, Bachelor of Social Work (BSW), University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, 1975