



Richard J. Hymel

Mediator and Arbitrator

Richard Hymel’s broad professional experience gives him the ability to mediate a wide variety of cases. He has successfully mediated cases since 2004 in the areas of admiralty and maritime, trucking and automobile accidents, premises liability, environmental contamination, insurance coverage, contractual indemnity, construction disputes, employment discrimination, sales tax, and workers’ compensation. In 2012, he attended mediation training offered by Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University School of Law, then ranked as the #1 dispute resolution program in the country by *U.S. News & World Report*.



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Concentrations

Admiralty and Maritime, including Jones Act, vessel and platform related personal injuries, and vessel collisions

Well Blowouts

Trucking and Automobile Accidents

Commercial Disputes

Premises Liability

Contractual Indemnity

Insurance Coverage

Environmental Contamination

Education

BA in Accounting, Nicholls State University (1986)

JD, Louisiana State University (1990)

Pepperdine University's Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution (2012)

Recognitions

Court appointed mediator in the 14th Judicial District Court, Calcasieu Parish, for Hurricane Laura and Delta Claims

AV Rated Martindale-Hubbell

Louisiana Super Lawyer

Certified Public Accountant (inactive)

Biography

Mr. Hymel is a lawyer with Mahtook & LaFleur in Lafayette and has 32 years of legal experience. He is a seasoned, mature litigator having tried a range of cases, including those in the areas of admiralty and maritime, well blowouts, environmental contamination, trucking accidents, commercial disputes, premises liability, and workers’ compensation.

Mr. Hymel serves as a court appointed neutral/mediator in the Hurricane Laura and Delta Claims for the 14th Judicial District Court, Calcasieu Parish, Lake Charles, Louisiana. As selected by his peers, he holds an AV Preeminent peer review rating on Martindale-Hubbell, the highest possible rating for legal ability and ethical standards. Mr. Hymel was named "Louisiana Super Lawyer" by Thomson Reuters and "Top Lawyer" by Acadiana Profile Magazine. In addition to Mr. Hymel’s impressive experience as a Louisiana litigator, he is also a member of the Texas State Bar Association and passed the Certified Public Accountant exam.

Mr. Hymel represented Transocean in the investigation and litigation arising out of the BP Macondo well blowout. Mr. Hymel led the initial investigation for Transocean then served as trial counsel for Transocean in the seven-week Coast Guard/MMS hearings and eight-week Multi-District Litigation trial. In connection with his representation of Transocean in the BP Macondo well blowout, Mr. Hymel attended IADC WellCap Supervisor Well Control School.