

Deborah B. Steele, Esq.

Dispute Resolution Experience

Arbitrator, National Center for Dispute Settlement, February 2024 – present

Serve as an arbitrator in warranty disputes between consumers and automobile manufacturers. (Contract position.)

Relevant skills: hearing officer, arbitration, dispute resolution, investigation, communication, legal writing, legal decision making.

Mediator, Arizona Attorney General's Office, Civil Rights Division, 2023-present

Conduct mediations concerning charges of discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodation. (Contract volunteer position.)

Relevant skills: Dispute resolution, communication, facilitation, negotiation.

Arbitrator, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), 2021- present

Serve as a public arbitrator in securities – related disputes between investors and brokers and / or brokerage firms. (Contract position.)

Relevant skills: arbitration, dispute resolution, investigation, communication.

Arbitrator, Better Business Bureau, 2013 - present

Serve as an arbitrator in disputes through BBB's Auto Line program, which adjudicates lemon law and car warranty claims against participating manufacturers. (Contract position.)

Relevant skills: hearing officer, arbitration, dispute resolution, investigation, communication, legal writing, legal decision making.

Legal Experience

Attorney (Charlotte, North Carolina), 2008-2015

Limited solo practice included representing parties in guardianship proceedings.

Relevant skills: investigation, advocacy, communication, legal writing.

Supervising Attorney, Legal Aid of North Carolina (Charlotte, North Carolina), 2015

Supervised paralegal students in providing limited free legal assistance via telephone to Legal Aid clients throughout North Carolina. Areas of assistance included Landlord-Tenant, Consumer and Collections issues.

Relevant skills: supervision, administration, legal research, communication.

Paralegal Instructor, Central Piedmont Community College (Charlotte, North Carolina), 1994-1997

Developed and taught paralegal courses in a variety of substantive areas, including Research and Writing, Bankruptcy, Corporate Law, Legal Ethics and Professionalism and Personal Injury Law. Advised students and performed administrative tasks related to the program.

Relevant skills: administration, communication, instruction / training, public speaking.

Associate Attorney (Charlotte, North Carolina), 1989-1994

Practice focused on civil litigation in federal, state and bankruptcy courts, including personal injury defense and creditors' rights.

Relevant skills: legal research including case law analysis, legal writing, advocacy, communication, supervision, investigation.

Education

University of North Carolina School of Law, J.D. 1989

University of Tennessee, B.A. in Economics with Highest Honors, 1986

Phi Beta Kappa

Phi Kappa Phi

Personal

I currently divide my time between Tucson, Arizona and Park City, Utah.