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Hon. Bruce J. Sottile

Los Angeles County Superior Court, Retired

Judge Bruce Sottile has long been a proponent of civility and courtesy in the practice of law, making him a natural as a mediator and settlement judge, as well as an impartial arbitrator. His reputation for being unflappable, easygoing and exceptionally fair made his Van Nuys courtroom a pleasant place during his 17 years on the bench. Attorneys agree that he is “gentle, but firm” and allows each side to thoroughly present its case.

Practice Areas

Complex litigation of all types, including business and contractual issues, medical malpractice, construction defect, personal injury and employment.

Conflict Resolution Experience

After serving for nearly two years on the Municipal Court, Judge Sottile was elevated in 1985 to the Los Angeles Superior Court and assigned to civil cases in San Fernando and Van Nuys.

Judge Sottile began his legal career in the Los Angeles City Attorney’s office, where served for many years as a principal legal advisor to various city departments on the drafting of contracts, leases, reports, opinions and ordinances. He also supervised civil litigation involving contract, bond and insurance, and bankruptcy issues. He spent 10 years representing the city’s Department of Water and Power Division, in matters involving taxes, land encroachment, administrative proceedings, litigation, contract awards, surety bonds and insurance.

Judge Sottile also gained business experience in the private sector, working as a contract administrator for Litton Industries and Hughes Aircraft while he attended law school. Judge Sottile authored and taught a course in Fire and Casualty insurance for over 17 years.

Organizations & Achievements

- Member: California Judges Assn., Justinian Society, Italian-American Lawyers Assn. (President, 1983). Former member: Los Angeles Co. Bar Assn., American Bar Assn.
- Recipient: numerous awards for community service from Italian-American organizations, including the Medalia de Oro and the Caviliere de Meritus.

Education & Training

- J.D., Southwestern University School of Law, 1964.
- B.B.A., Loyola (now Loyola Marymount) University, 1955.
- Certificate in Civil Mediation, National Judicial College, Reno, NV, 1999.

Judge Sottile is available throughout Southern California..