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Hon. Reva G. Goetz

Los Angeles County Superior Court, Retired

Judge Reva Goetz joined ARC after serving as a highly regarded Probate Judge from 2007 to 2014. Judge Goetz handled hundreds of contested, complex probate, trust and estate and conservatorship cases, including numerous high-profile matters. Prior to her appointment as a judge, she served as a Los Angeles Superior Court Commissioner for nearly 20 years. She handled Family Law from 2001 to 2007 and again from 2014 to 2015. Judge Goetz's background also includes service as a Deputy District Attorney and positions in the public and private sectors as an accountant, auditor and financial analyst.

Practice Areas

Probate, trusts and estates and conservatorship matters, including complex accounting and surcharge petitions; family law including difficult custody/visitation matters, and complicated financial issues concerning support and property division.

Conflict Resolution Experience

Judge Goetz served on the Los Angeles Superior Court from 1991 until her retirement in 2015. Before being appointed to the bench, she worked as a Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney in the Major Fraud Division (1984-1991) and as a sole practitioner (1983-1984). Prior to receiving her law degree, Judge Goetz worked as a controller/financial analyst for Diners Club/Carte Blanche and held various accounting and audit positions.

Judge Goetz resolved probate matters for nearly a decade, first as a Commissioner and later as a Judge. Well known for presiding over conservatorship proceedings involving Britney Spears, Judge Goetz also handled the conservatorship case of Zsa Zsa Gabor; an elder abuse lawsuit involving Mickey Rooney; and a case involving the contested will left by the widow of Sammy Davis, Jr.

Judge Goetz also has extensive experience in Family Law addressing challenging child custody cases (including children with special needs), and cases with complex/complicated financial issues such as support and property division, including those with family-owned businesses or unusual compensation structure. Her accounting background serves her well in these types of cases.

Organizations & Achievements

- Numerous presentations to legal organizations including CJER, LACBA and CEB on a wide range of probate topics, including estate and trusts, conservatorships and guardianships; advanced trust litigation; Gray Divorce [for divorcing couples over 55 years old]; evidence and trial advocacy; and basic accounting for judges
- Adjunct Professor, Concord University School of Law (2000-2002)

Education & Training

- J.D., 1982, Whittier College School of Law (*Editor and Member, Law Review*)
- B.A., Anthropology, University of California at Los Angeles

Judge Goetz is available throughout California.