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# Michael H. Leb, Esq. *Mediator/Arbitrator*

Michael H. Leb, Esq. has almost 30 years of broad-based legal experience—with a unique blend of traditional labor law, litigation, and transactional expertise—all of which he brings to bear in his work as a mediator and arbitrator. He has practiced at Latham & Watkins, held senior executive positions with two Fortune 50 companies in law, human resources, labor relations and operations, represented plaintiffs at a top-tier trial boutique and as a solo practitioner, and participated in hundreds of mediations and arbitrations. He has broad and deep litigation expertise at both the trial and appellate levels in labor and employment law, including class actions, as well as federal and state court commercial litigation.

## Practice Areas

Business/contract, class actions, employment.

## Conflict Resolution Experience

In his role as Senior Vice President of People for Wal-Mart, Michael Leb oversaw the company's human resource compliance function and its internal complaint resolution procedure to which more than one million associates had access. Prior to that, as Safeway's Vice President of Labor Relations, he oversaw the company's internal grievance procedure applicable to over 100,000 employees across the United States. As Safeway's Vice President of Manufacturing, he led the 44-plant, 2000 employee food-processing operation with annual sales of \$3 billion.

Michael is on the American Arbitration Association's Employment Law Arbitration and Mediation Panels. In addition to his private dispute resolution practice, Michael also serves on the Los Angeles County Equity Oversight Panel, the Federal District Court Settlement Officer Panel, Arbitration Panel for City of Anaheim Police Department and APA, the mediation panels for the Los Angeles and Ventura County Superior Courts, as a facilitator for the Clark County School

District Grievance Adjustment Panel and as a Hearing Officer for the City of Santa Monica. He has also mediated cases for the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Michael was selected by the City of Los Angeles as an arbitrator to rule on challenges in Neighborhood Council elections.

## Organizations & Achievements

- Adjunct Professor at Pepperdine University's Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution
- Frequent speaker on ADR and author of a number of published articles on mediation and substantive law issues
- Member of the Southern California Mediators Association and the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Labor & Employment Law Section
- Conversant in Spanish and Italian and has some facility with Mandarin Chinese, Russian, French and Hebrew

## Education & Training

- J.D., University of Michigan School of Law, *cum laude*
- B.A., Yale University, Russian Studies and Economics, *cum laude*

*Mr. Leb is available throughout California.*