POWERHOUSE MEDIATION

Hon. William H. Leary III (Ret.)

Civil Mediator

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Judge Bill Leary (Ret.) brings 16 years on Minnesota's Second Judicial District Court in Ramsey County and more than two decades in private practice to his work as a PowerHouse mediator. He served as presiding judge of the Civil Division and oversaw consolidated medical device litigation. Before joining the bench, he focused on medical malpractice defense and other professional and general liability matters.

NEUTRAL SERVICES

Civil mediation, with a focus on medical negligence and health care law. Family mediation in selected cases.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Medical negligence, health care litigation, and professional liability
- Products liability, personal injury, and wrongful death
- Employment and insurance disputes
- Construction, probate, and governmental disputes

JUDICIAL & LEGAL EXPERIENCE

District Court Judge, Minnesota Second Judicial District
Ramsey County · Appointed in 2002 · Retired in 2018 · Subsequent service as a senior judge

- Served in the Civil, Family, and Criminal Court Divisions. Presiding judge of the Civil Division and a member of the District Executive Committee from 2014 to 2017.
- Volunteered as a Mental Health Court judge from its inception in 2005 through 2015. During his service, the court was designated a National Learning Site by the National Center for State Courts.

PRIOR LEGAL PRACTICE

Geraghty, O'Loughlin & Kenney, P.A.
Attorney and shareholder. Focused on medical malpractice defense and other professional and general liability matters.

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SELECTED JUDICIAL MATTERS

- Guidant implantable defibrillator litigation. Appointed by the Minnesota Supreme Court to preside over consolidated state-court litigation involving approximately 750 personal injury and wrongful death claims, as well as third-party claims by health insurers.
- Bair Hugger surgical warming device litigation. Presided over consolidated state-court products liability litigation involving more than 1,000 lawsuits. In both medical device proceedings, conducted joint pretrial hearings with the federal court overseeing the corresponding multidistrict litigation.
- Other civil matters. Presided over disputes involving insurance claims, design and construction defects, obligations under a commercial property sale, public benefits, and public pensions.
- Coordinated proceedings. Took a voluntary assignment to preside over all Second District criminal and implied-consent litigation involving the Intoxilyzer source code.

EDUCATION

- J.D., William Mitchell College of Law
- B.A., College of St. Thomas

TEACHING & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- Adjunct professor, University of St. Thomas School of Law and William Mitchell College of Law.
- Lectured for Minnesota Continuing Legal Education, the Ramsey County Bar Association, and the Minnesota Defense Lawyers Association. Lectured statewide and nationally on mental health courts.
- Supervising judge and mentor for law school internship and externship programs.
- Minnesota District Judges Association member and board director. Served on its Civil Jury Instructions Guide Committee.

SELECTED COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Board chair and member, HOPE International Adoption and Social Services Agency.
- Board chair and member, Office of Conciliation, Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis.
- Trustee and parish council chair and member, Lumen Christi Catholic Community.