



Lawrence Kershen QC Commercial Mediator

Regarded as highly experienced and effective as a mediator of commercial disputes, Lawrence was accredited by CEDR in 1994. His mediation expertise covers a range of disputes in a variety of sectors, with a 'great track record'.

With litigation experience over 30 years as a barrister, he uses his understanding of law and litigation and his experience in negotiation process and problem solving to help parties to successful outcomes. Parties consistently report satisfaction with his conduct of the process and a high level of success in achieving settlement. He can be facilitative and robust as required and has a relaxed style, combined with an energetic approach to the process.

Lawrence has been identified as a Leader at the Bar in ADR. Chambers Directory has described him as *"incredibly knowledgeable and effective"* with a *"great track record"*, and has highlighted his *"ability to gain the confidence of all sides and keep a tight rein on the focus of a mediation"*, his *"expert grasp of group psychology"*, and that he is *"admired for his hugely sympathetic and personal style"*.

His experience includes:

- **Defamation/Confidentiality** - premier league football club & national newspaper, price sensitive confidential information;
- **Finance** - bank private equity division, pension fund, investment company;
- **Inheritance** - beneficiaries, family land, removal of executors;
- **Intellectual property** - TV channel, film production, engineering, software;
- **Mechanical/engineering** - hydrocarbon contamination, automotive manufacture, food production processes;
- **Partnership/shareholders** - property and construction, pharmaceuticals joint venture, minority shareholdings;
- **Personal injury/insurance** - motor-racing circuit fatal accident, train collision, dentist work-related illness;
- **Professional negligence** - investment advisors, actuaries, solicitors, barristers and other commercial contracts; also voluntary organisations – charities, Church, faith community (350 participants); police – disciplinary, claims against police; human rights - commute death penalties.

Lawrence worked as a barrister from 1967 to 1999, sat as a Recorder (part-time judge) of the Crown Court for 12 years, and was appointed Queens Counsel in 1992. Litigation experience includes commercial contracts and tort as well as complex and large-scale criminal cases, including corporate fraud, trade-marks, and Revenue.

Lawrence has a long-term interest in developing processes to make negotiation and mediation most effective. He has led training programmes in UK, Slovakia, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Denmark, Finland and elsewhere. He is qualified as a trainer in communication skills, including Neuro Linguistic Programming and Non-Violent Communication. He helps promote the use of Restorative Justice approaches – mediation principles applied in criminal, prison, workplace and schools disputes, and is on the board of the Restorative Justice Consortium.