



Ralph J. Stephens

Mediator

Ralph Stephens is a distinguished professional with an illustrious career spanning over four decades in the realm of taxation. Beginning his journey with a brief stint at Losavio and Weinstein, Mr. Stephens embarked on a remarkable forty-year tenure at Postlethwaite & Netteville (APAC), where he ascended to the esteemed position of senior tax director before his retirement in December 2023.



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Concentrations

State and Local Tax

Business Valuation

Professional Liability

Construction

Industrial

Bankruptcy

Education

BS in Accounting, Louisiana State University, (1976)

JD, LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center (1980)

Recognitions

Certified Public Accountant

Accredited in Business Valuation

Member, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

Member, Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants

Member, American Bar Association

Biography

Throughout his tenure, Mr. Stephens's expertise traversed diverse areas of taxation, with a keen focus on tax compliance and strategic planning for clients. His unparalleled proficiency extended to representation before prominent entities such as the Internal Revenue Service, the Louisiana Department of Revenue, and various state Revenue Departments. Mr. Stephens's wealth of experience and unwavering dedication have left an indelible mark on the field of taxation, earning him widespread respect and admiration within the industry. He has served as the Chairman of the Louisiana CPA Society's Federal Tax committee, Louisiana Tax Conference and the Advanced Tax Workshop. He has spoken frequently to the Bar Association and CPA Society on both taxation, business valuation and litigation topics.

In 1999, Mr. Stephens became credentialled by the American Institute of CPA's (AICPA) as Accredited in Business Valuation. He was a member of the AICPA Business Valuation Standards Task Force that established the standards for CPAs performing business valuations. He is also Certified in Financial Forensics (CFF), another specialized credential of the AICPA. He was a member of the AICPA's initial CFF credential committee and chaired its task force that created the body of knowledge for the credential. Mr. Stephens has performed hundreds of business valuations. He has appeared as an expert witness in numerous State and Federal courts in Louisiana, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi and Tennessee. He has testified as an expert on a variety of matters including business valuation, commercial damages, forensic accounting, and executive compensation.

Mr. Stephens was born in New Orleans and reared in Baton Rouge. He and his wife, Sissy, are the proud parents of three adult children: Andrew, Joseph and Nathan. Mr. He is active in various civic and charitable organizations. He has taught a daily Law Studies class at Catholic High in Baton Rouge since 1982, Other civic endeavors include Louisiana Key Academy Charter School (Board Treasurer), Louisiana Pediatric Cardiology Foundation (Board President), Catholic Presbyterian Apartments (Board Member), and TRUCE (Board Treasurer).