

Stephen J. Herman

Special Master | Mediator | Arbitrator

With more than 30 years of litigation experience, Steve Herman brings a unique perspective and extensive knowledge of complex litigation to his role as a neutral. His experience in multi-plaintiff, class action, and multidistrict litigation gives him insight into the challenges and complexities of resolving disputes involving multiple parties and competing interests. A respected trial attorney, mediator and special master, Mr. Herman combines his legal knowledge, practical experience, and thoughtful approach to help parties navigate and resolve even the most challenging disputes.

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Concentrations

- Class Actions
- Multidistrict Litigation (MDL)
- Ethics & Professional Liability
- Attorney Fee Disputes
- Privilege Issues
- Settlement and Fee Allocation

Education

- BA, Dartmouth College (1991)
- JD, Tulane University Law School, *magna cum laude* (1994)

Recognitions

- Co-Lead Counsel, BP Oil Spill Litigation
- Settlement Class Counsel, Chinese Drywall Litigation
- Independent Counsel, Jefferson Parish Ethics & Compliance Commission Investigation (2025)
- Special Master, retained by plaintiffs in *Addison v. Louisiana Regional Landfill Co.*, No.19-11133 (E.D.La.)
- Past President, National Civil Justice Institute
- Past President, New Orleans Bar Association
- NALFA Nation's Top Attorney Fee Expert (2018)
- Harry Philo Award, AAJ (2018)
- Stalwart Award, LAJ (2017)
- Finalist, Trial Lawyers for Public Justice Trial Lawyers of the Year Award (2005)

Biography

Steve Herman was a longtime partner in his New Orleans family law firm, Herman Herman & Katz, as well as the national firm Herman Middleton Casey Kitchens & Gerel firm with offices in Atlanta, Georgia. He currently serves as Special Counsel to Fishman Haygood LLP.

With more than 30 years of litigation experience, Mr. Herman is a fellow of the International Academy of Trial Lawyers and the Litigation Counsel of America. He teaches the Advanced Torts: Class Actions seminar at Loyola Law School and the Advanced Civil Procedure: Complex Litigation at Tulane Law. He is a member of both the American Law Institute and the Louisiana Law Institute, and serves as Chair of the LSBA Class Action, Mass Tort, and Complex Litigation Section.

Mr. Herman has represented both plaintiffs and defendants in class actions, attorney fee disputes, and other high-stakes litigation. In addition to his litigation practice, he has served as an expert, consultant, mediator, special master, and independent counsel. He has written and spoken extensively on complex discovery, litigation and trial practice, privilege and spoliation, legal ethics and professionalism, class actions, and MDL practice. This has included participating in several working groups and symposia with judges in connection with Emory, Duke, GW Law School, Lewis & Clark, the Federal Judicial Center, and the Civil Rules Committee.

Mr. Herman is actively involved in the Louisiana legal community, including involvement in the Louisiana Disciplinary Board Hearing Committee process and as a long-serving member of the LSBA Rules of Professional Conduct Committee. He was also appointed by the Louisiana Supreme Court to a special subcommittee studying ethics and procedure in class actions, mass torts, and complex litigation.

Mr. Herman is married to the Honorable Karen K. Herman, of the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal. They are the proud parents of two grown children, Alexandra and Andrew.