

**STEPHEN K. MERSHON**  
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As a magna cum laude graduate of Bellarmine University (Philosophy), a former graduate student in Psychology at the University of Dallas and a graduate of the University of Louisville's Brandeis School of Law; Judge Mershon would be honored to help resolve your dispute.

Judge Mershon was beginning his tenth year of practicing law when elected to the bench in 1988. As a volunteer for Kentucky's first Family Court, he presided over cases dealing with divorce, child custody, and child and adult abuse and neglect. During these early years on the bench, Judge Mershon participated in his first mediation training.

Beginning in 1996, Judge Mershon assumed a general circuit court docket. He heard many challenging cases beginning with Brown & Williamson v Dr. Jeffery Wiegand and presided over five death penalty trials. In December, 2004, Judge Mershon was elected Chief Judge of the Circuit Term and served as Chief Judge until taking "Senior Status" in July 2007. Now fully retired, he continues to do victim - offender felony mediations for the court system on a volunteer basis. Judge Mershon has a history of understanding the facts from the perspectives of all involved and either resolving the dispute or helping the parties find a solution.

Judge Mershon is a former member of the Board of Directors of the YWCA Spouse Abuse Center, the Home of the Innocents and New Directions Housing Corporation. He was the founding president of the Board of Children First and former treasurer of the Louisville Chapter of the Lawyers Alliance for Nuclear Arms Control.

He is a past Chair and current board member of Day Spring, a community that empowers adults with intellectual disabilities to live

fulfilling lives by offering support in a residential setting.  
[www.DaySpringKY.org](http://www.DaySpringKY.org).

Judge Mershon is Chair of the Board of MB Care, a partnership between Maryhurst and Brooklawn which serves some of society's most vulnerable by providing residential treatment for children with intensive psychiatric needs.

Judge Mershon is also Vice Chair of the Board of Restorative Justice, Louisville which spearheads a pilot project in the Juvenile Division of the Jefferson District Court which attempts to divert cases from the court system through the use of restorative justice concepts. [www.rjlouisville.org](http://www.rjlouisville.org).

Among other things, he was inducted into Trinity High School's Hall of Fame in December, 2010; recognized as "Judge of the Year" by the Louisville Bar Association in 2008; inducted into Bellarmine University's Gallery of Distinguished Graduates in 2006; recognized as Family Court Judge of the Year in November, 1994 by Kentucky Foster Care Citizens Review Board; received 1990 "Humanitarian to the Community" award from Parents United, an affiliate of the Family and Children's Agency; and received 1984 YWCA Spouse Abuse Center Volunteer Service Award.

He taught continuing legal and judicial education courses for the Delaware judiciary (1995); for mental health professionals, the bar and judiciary of Ireland (1996) and for the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (Colorado, 1997). Judge Mershon understands the importance of alternative dispute resolution. He has participated in numerous mediation trainings over the years and now helps train other aspiring mediators.

A statement of his beliefs can be found at <http://thisibelieve.org/essay/73056/>

Thank you for considering Judge Mershon to resolve your dispute.