

**Faustin A. Pipal, Jr., Esq.**

**Chicago, Illinois**



Clients tap into Faustin “Frosty” Pipal’s wide range of experience as a leading litigator, arbitrator and mediator. Collectively, clients have used Mr. Pipal to resolve in mediation over 3,500 lawsuits and claims not yet in suit. His reputation as someone who will not easily give up on a case until it is settled or truly has reached impasse is unparalleled. Mr. Pipal’s areas of expertise are:

- Substantial Personal Injury/Wrongful Death Matters
- Employment Disputes
- Business Divorce & Marital Divorce
- Class Actions

Mr. Pipal is a member of the National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals. He is also a FINRA Mediation Panel member where he mediates securities and employment disputes.

Mr. Pipal is founding partner in the Chicago-based law firm of Pipal & Berg, LLP. He still maintains an active civil litigation practice in addition to his mediation practice. He has been litigating for clients since 1980, and he draws on his experience as an accomplished trial attorney during the mediation process. His years of trying cases in Chicago and the Midwest give him a real-life perspective during the mediation process that his clients appreciate.

**Business & Marital Divorce**

After mediating a number of closely held and family-owned business dissolution matters, Mr. Pipal decided to expand this area of his practice. He has long had an interest in helping divorcing couples escape the legal system at their earliest opportunity. Mr. Pipal recognized that many of the dynamics are the same in business divorces and marital divorces.

Mr. Pipal’s philosophy is to identify common interests and goals, and effectively work through those differences to achieve resolution in a timely fashion. Nothing is more frustrating for the disputants than to attend multiple mediation sessions with little progress made. Mr. Pipal brings the results-oriented approach of a seasoned civil mediator to the business and marital divorce arenas.

In 2024, Mr. Pipal completed Northwestern University’s Divorce Mediation Professional Development Program taught by Matthew Carroll and Sandra Crawford. He is a contributing member of the Chicago Bar Association Business Divorce Committee.

## **Class Action Mediation**

Mr. Pipal has extensive experience mediating disputes pending in class actions. He has been appointed by courts to act as mediator, as well as selected by litigants to voluntarily mediate. He has mediated class action disputes in Illinois, Washington, Indiana, Florida, Texas, Washington D.C., Missouri, Kansas, Michigan and Georgia. He has significant experience with medical device product liability matters. For more information, please contact Mike Weinzierl at [mweinzierl@resolutesystems.com](mailto:mweinzierl@resolutesystems.com) or 312.346.3770, ext. 125.

## **Employment Mediation**

Combining the facilitative and evaluative styles of mediating, Faustin Pipal is one of the few mediators with extensive experience mediating both employment and catastrophic injury matters. Since establishing his mediation practice in 1993, Mr. Pipal has mediated and arbitrated a myriad of employment matters including:

- Wrongful Discharge
- Race, Age, Gender & Sexual Orientation Discrimination
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Sexual Harassment
- Non-Compete Agreements
- Employment Contract Disputes
- Wage & Hour
- Fair Labor Standards Act
- Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA)
- Trade Secrets

Mr. Pipal draws on his litigation experience during the mediation, instilling confidence in the process. A litigator since 1980, he has represented both employees and employers in wrongful discharge and discrimination cases. His considerable experience litigating employment matters helps him evaluate the strengths and weaknesses in each party's case, increasing the effectiveness and value of the process.

In June of 2016, Mr. Pipal completed an Advanced Mediation Training Program at the Pepperdine University Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution. The program, entitled: " 'You're Fired!' Resolving Workplace Disputes through Mediation and Other ADR Processes", focused on how ADR applies in the employment context and differentiates itself from other types of commercial disputes. Topics covered included recognizing the key legal elements of wrongful discharge, sexual harassment, discrimination, retaliation, and wage and hour litigation.

In 2015, Mr. Pipal presented a full-day program on Negotiation to the Regional Directors of the U.S. Department of Labor, OSHA Division at their annual conference in Chicago. He is an approved external mediator in the EEOC's Mediation Program, and has provided mediation training to law firms and employers. Mr. Pipal is an approved mediator in the Circuit Court of Cook County Law and Chancery Divisions Court-Ordered Mediation Programs.

## **Professional Experience**

Since 1993 Mr. Pipal has mediated over 3,500 cases involving wrongful death, substantial personal injury, class actions, business disputes, medical device product liability, insurance coverage, commercial and employment disputes. He is on the FINRA roster of mediators, where he mediates securities and employment-related disputes. Mr. Pipal's practice is national in scope having conducted mediations in more than 20 states.

Mr. Pipal has been a litigator since 1980, and maintains an active litigation practice in addition to serving as a mediator. He represents both plaintiffs and defendants in products liability, substantial personal injury, employment and commercial matters. His experience litigating civil matters instills confidence in his clients during the mediation process.

Mr. Pipal was a presenter on mediation strategies at the 2010 Council on Litigation Management Conference in Jacksonville, Florida. More recently he presented on mediation at the American Trucking Association (ATA) annual meeting in 2023, and in 2024 at the Magna National Conference in Las Vegas. He has taught Alternative Dispute Resolution to judges and specially selected attorneys in Lake and McHenry County, Illinois. Mr. Pipal served on the Cook County Circuit Court, Law Division Special Committee on Mediation. He has written extensively, including a recently published article entitled "Being there: Presence of the decision-maker at mediation." Mr. Pipal regularly lectures on mediation to bar groups, to law students at Chicago area law schools, including the University of Chicago Law School, and to church leaders at the Theodore Hesburgh Center at Catholic Theological Union.

Mr. Pipal is a member of National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals. He is past President of the Chicago Chapter of the nation's leading alternative dispute resolution group: the Association for Conflict Resolution (ACR). Mr. Pipal was a founding board member and officer of the Coordinated Advice and Referral Program for (Pro Bono) Legal Services (CARPLS). Mr. Pipal has served on the Board of Directors of the Illinois Equal Justice Foundation. He is also a past member of the following other Boards: the Board of Directors of the Center for Conflict Resolution, the Board of Managers of the Chicago Bar Association, and the Board of Directors of Chicago Bar Foundation. In 2019, Mr. Pipal was inducted into the National Law Journal Hall of Fame for Individual Mediators.

To schedule mediation or arbitration with Faustin Pipal, please contact Mike Weinzierl at [weinzierlme@resolutesystems.com](mailto:weinzierlme@resolutesystems.com) or 312-346-3770 ext. 125.

### **Education**

- JD, Northwestern University School of Law
- MA, Northwestern University School of Speech, Communication Studies
- BS, Northwestern University School of Speech, Communication Studies

### **Mediation Training**

- Northwestern University Divorce Mediation Professional Development Program taught by Matthew Carroll and Sandra Crawford, May 2024
- Pepperdine University Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution: "You're Fired!" Resolving Workplace Disputes through Mediation and Other ADR Processes taught by Eric R. Galton and Tracy L. Allen, June 2016
- National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals: Advanced Mediation Training, August 11-13, 2011
- Pepperdine University Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution: "Mediating in the Red Zone: Raising Your Settlement Rates" taught by Eric R. Galton and Tracy L. Allen, October 2010
- "Advanced Mediation Training" taught by John R. Van Winkle, March 2009
- "Advanced Mediation Training" taught by Jeffrey Krivis, October, 2008