

VIRGINIA L. MORRISON

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EXPERIENCE

INSTITUTIONAL LITIGATION

Special Master – LH v. Brown

2005-2013

Deputy Special Master – Valdivia v. Brown (Special Master Chase Riveland)

Neutral representative of federal court overseeing development and implementation of system of parole revocation conducted consistent with due process, and alternatives to incarceration, in California's adult and juvenile systems. Responsibilities included:

- Investigating and assessing implementation in the following: 14 revocation centers; 6 juvenile facilities; 58 counties' jails; parole supervision units including mental health staff; attorney panel for parolees; community service providers; and central administration of board of parole hearings, paroles division, legal affairs, institutions division, and health care services
- Assessing data and writing analytical reports that serve as a basis for the court's findings and further orders
- Recommending systems improvements, including design and implementation of effective information management and quality improvement systems
- Overseeing negotiations concerning policy development and implementation
- Conducting fact-finding hearings and issuing findings of fact and conclusions of law

Deputy Special Master – Farrell v. Beard (Special Master Nancy Campbell)

2011-present

Neutral representative of federal court overseeing systemic reform of juvenile facilities, including medical, dental and mental health care; disabilities; use of force; and education. Collaborate with Special Master concerning implementation issues and oversight strategy.

Monitor – Coleman v. Schwarzenegger

1998-2008

(Special Masters have been J. Michael Keating and Matthew Lopes, Jr.)

Neutral representative of federal court overseeing development and delivery of mental health services in administrative segregation, general population and reception centers in California's prison system. Responsibilities included:

- On-site and documentary review of institutions' progress toward implementing negotiated terms of remedy
- Assessing data and writing analytical reports that serve as a basis for the court's findings and further orders
- Investigating and bridging obstacles to delivery in an institution, across the system, and in relation to state mental health hospital system
- Leading discussions between institutional administration, mental health, medical, and security staff to identify and design solutions to implementation barriers
- Assisting institutional leaders and clinicians in developing effective quality improvement systems
- Reviewing and contributing to policy development

Plaintiffs' counsel -- Ruiz v. Estelle

1991-1999

Senior Associate, Law Office of Donna Brorby

Plaintiffs' counsel in landmark prison conditions class action against the Texas prison system, then the largest in the U.S. Responsibilities included:

- Emphasis on medical, mental health, use of force, administrative segregation, and vulnerable populations
- Assisted in implementing comprehensive consent decree, which initiated systems governing most areas of prison management

- Coordinated legal and paralegal team investigating claims of continuing violations, including documentary analysis and on-site inspections, staff and prisoner interviews
- Successful defense against a PLRA challenge, including preparing and presenting medical and correctional experts, prisoner witnesses, and written evidence; drafting motions and appellate filings; and formulating strategy as second chair in three-week evidentiary hearing

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

President, COLLABORATION SPECIALISTS

2001-present

Arbitration, Administrative Hearing Officer: Conduct hearings and file binding written findings and conclusions for the State Bar of California concerning fee disputes, and for the cities of Fremont and Hayward in disputes over municipal code violations.

Technical assistance: Serve on the first Conflict Management Advisory Board for Amnesty International, a complex global organization advocating for human rights. Advise Pacific University, McGeorge School of Law in its design of the Pacific Conflict Management Institute, a resource for the health care industry.

Mediation:

- At Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster sites, provide mediation, coaching, facilitation and training to FEMA staff
- Mediate complex organizational disputes; outcomes include self-sustaining internal conflict resolution systems, collaboration in resident training, consultation guidelines, interdisciplinary quality improvement
- Mediate events when patients and professionals disagree about quality of care
- Provide facilitative mediation to businesses and individuals instead of litigation or to conclude it. Provided service to panels for: California Court of Appeals, First District; Medicare program in California (Lumetra); State Bar of California; Contra Costa, Marin, and Solano Superior Courts; San Francisco, Sonoma and Alameda counties' bar associations; Mediation Services-Alameda

Restorative justice: Facilitator of 1:1 dialogues between survivors of severe crime and the people who harmed them

Conflict resolution: Adapt conflict resolution to specific needs of health care environment. Provide facilitation, coaching, mediation, and other services as needed. Integrate these techniques to carry out operational challenges.

EDUCATION

BOALT HALL SCHOOL OF LAW, University of California, Berkeley

J.D., 1996

SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY

B.A., Anthropology, minor: Journalism 1993

Mediation training -- more than 250 hours

BOARDS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Health Lawyers Association

State Bar of California

Association for Conflict Resolution, Health Care Section Executive Council

Mediators Beyond Borders, Board Secretary, Executive Committee, Projects Committee Chair, founding member

Amnesty International, Conflict Management Advisory Board

National Coalition for Dialogue & Deliberation

Consumers Advancing Patient Safety, founding advisor and member of Board of Directors Conflicts Committee

Harvard School of Public Health alumni association, source book/database workgroup

Patient Advocacy Summit, web resource workgroup leader

Middle East Institute

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

Gail Ervin, Virginia Morrison, Prabha Sankaranarayan, *Mediators Beyond Borders: How Mediators Can Build Partnerships for a Culture of Peace*, *World Mediation Forum VIII Conference Proceedings*, 2012, Vol. II, 14-21

Virginia L. Morrison, Nicola B. Truppin, *Using the Law to Strengthen the Patient's Voice*, in *Patient Advocacy for Healthcare Quality: Strategies for Achieving Patient-Centered Care*, Earp, J. & French, E. (Eds.), Jones and Bartlett (2007)

Virginia L. Morrison, *Heyoka: The Shifting Shape of Dispute Resolution in Health Care*, 21 GA ST. U. L. REV 931 (2005)

Lance Montauk, Virginia Morrison, *Crime, Confidentiality, and Clinical Judgment*, *The Lancet*, December 2004, 364: 46-47

SELECT PRESENTATIONS

International Academy of Law and Mental Health, 30th International Conference, Padua, Italy:
Mental Health Care in Prisons: Beyond Litigation to Effective Systems

American Bar Association Dispute Resolution Section, Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA:
Mediators Beyond Borders and the Rule of Law: Peacebuilding in International Communities

International Human Rights Law Institute, Peacebuilding Training Toward Reconciliation in Iraq, Suleimaniya, Iraq: *Conflict Prevention Skills to Promote Community Reconciliation* (for NGOs and tribal leaders)

Hastings School of Law, guest lecture, San Francisco, CA:
International Conflict Resolution

Santa Clara University School of Law, guest lectures, Santa Clara, CA:
Mediation and Conflict Resolution in the Health Law Arena
Conflict Resolution in Health Law

Amnesty International International Council Meeting, Berlin, Germany:
Increasing Human Rights Impact by Reducing Destructive Disagreements

Mediators Beyond Borders, Annual Congress, Washington, DC:
Leadership Roles and Responsibilities

Georgia State University Law Review Symposium -- The Next Generation of ADR and Conflict Management in Health Care Settings: New Challenges, New Approaches, Atlanta, GA:
Improving Patient Care Through Conflict Resolution – Insiders' Approaches

Association for Conflict Resolution, Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA:
Women Hold Up Half the Sky: When the Other Half Is Falling

City University of New York Dispute Resolution Consortium, New York, NY:
Conflict Management in Health Care – The Inside Scoop for Mediators

- Complete list of publications and presentations available on request -