THE LAW AND MEDIATION OFFICES OF

# HEIDI S. TUFFIAS, INC.

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

ATTORNEY & MEDIATOR Heidi S. Tuffias \*\*^

- ° CERTIFIED FAMILY LAW SPECIALIST CALIFORNIA BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION
- \* PRACTICE INCLUDES COLLABORATIVE LAW
- ^ Licensed Associate Marriage and Family
  Therapist

# PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF HEIDI S. TUFFIAS

(January 2022)

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

THE LAW AND MEDIATION OFFICES OF HEIDI S. TUFFIAS, INC., APC

January 1, 2000 - present

Family law practice focusing on mediation, collaborative law, alternative dispute resolution, child custody, support, property division, family law appeals, representation of children, pre and post nuptial agreements and other areas of family law.

#### ANTIOCH UNIVERSITY COUNSELING CENTER

April 2016 - present

Licensed Associate Marriage and Family Therapist California Board of Behavioral Sciences License number 112687 Supervised by Dr. Eric Day

#### **MOSTEN & TUFFIAS**

January 1, 1995 - December 31, 1999

#### **MOSTEN & WASSERSTROM**

June 1989 - December 31, 1994

#### FAMILY LAW AND MEDIATION EXPERIENCE

 Certified Family Law Specialist by the California Board of Legal Specialization since 1995.

- 2. Los Angeles County Bar Liaison to the Los Angeles Superior Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee from 2009 to 2021.
- 3. Pro Bono Mediator for the Los Angeles Superior Court, Central and West districts since 1995.
- 4. Author of "The Human Side of Family Law Practice" quarterly column for the Association of Certified Family Law Specialists Newsletter, 2003 2017.

#### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- 1. President of the Board of Directors of the Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law, January 1, 2020 December 31, 2021.
- 2. Member of the Board of Directors of the Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law 2015 present.
- Former Member of the Family Law Executive Committee of the Los Angeles County Bar. Current Co-Chair of the ADR Sub-Committee and chair of the 2013 Child Custody Colloquium.
- Member, California Associate of Marriage and Family Therapists, April 2016 present.
- Board Member of the California Dispute Resolution Council, January 2013 -2014.
- 6. Member of Mediation Study Group, FLAMES, since 2005.
- 7. Former Member of the Los Angeles Westside Collaborative Divorce Professionals.
- 8. Member of the International Academy of Collaborative Professionals.
- 9. Member of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts.
- 10. Founding Member of the Los Angeles Family Law Inns of Court, 2008 to 2014.
- 11. Board of Directors of the Association of Certified Family Law Specialists, 2001 2006.
- 12. Member of the Los Angeles Collaborative Family Law Association, 2003 to the present.
- 13. Board member of the Board of Governors of the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles 1993 –1999.

14. Volunteer Judge for negotiation competition at Pepperdine University Law School.

# TEACHING, SPEAKING AND WRITING

- 1. Presenter, Los Angeles County Bar Association Minor's Counsel Training, September 2021, Psychotherapist/Patient Privilege vs. Best Interest: Which Prevails in Custody Cases?
- 2. Presenter Pre-Conference Institute, AFCC Annual Conference June 2021, Advanced Issues in Mediating Parenting Plans.
- Presenter, Supreme Court of Rwanda, March 2021, Advanced Family Law Training.
- 4. Presenter, AFCC Toronto, June 2019, How Professionals can Collaborate even if they Disagree on Everything: Using Differing Viewpoints to Help Families and Children.
- 5. Presenter, Pepperdine University, Strauss Institute for Dispute Resolution, online Family Mediation course May 2019, "Psychology for Mediators".
- 6. Presenter, Pepperdine University, Strauss Institute for Dispute Resolution, January 2018, "California Family Law for Mediators."
- 7. Presenter, UCLA School of Law, Mediation Class, October 2017, "Causes of Conflict."
- 8. Presenter, Southern California Mediation Association, 29<sup>th</sup> Annual SCMA Conference, October 2017, "Creating successful parenting plans with high conflict couples".
- 9. Presenter, Los Angeles County Bar Association, Family Law Section's Child Custody Colloquium, October 2016, "The Digital Dilemma: Regulating/Supervising Kids' Use of Electronics and Social Media."
- 10. Presenter, Los Angeles County Bar Association, Family Law Section's Child Custody Colloquium, October 2015, "Legal Rights, Client Expectations, Ethics and Zealous Advocacy: Are we asking the right questions when we create Parenting Plans?"
- 11. Presenter, San Fernando Valley Bar Association, Family Law Section, February 2015, "Negotiations: Custody Issues".
- 12. Faculty for the Los Angeles Collaborative Family Law Association (LACFLA) annual October Training from 2009 to 2014.
- 13. Facilitator, Consensual Dispute Resolution Pepperdine Program, March 2014.

- 14. Presenter, ADR Section of the Orange County Bar Association, January 2014, "Trends for Consensual Dispute Resolution."
- 15. Presenter, Los Angeles County Bar Association, Family Law Section, September 2013, "Mediation Essentials for Daily Settlement Officers."
- 16. Presenter, Los Angeles Superior Court Volunteer Mediation Training, Pepperdine University April 2012, "Creating Resources in Family Law Matters with Limited Financial Resources."
- 17. Moderator for "Dancing with Wolves in Sheep's Clothing: Professionals Who Don't 'Get It'- Dealing with sabotage and inexperienced professionals and experts in Consensual Dispute Resolution (CDR)" held at State Bar South CDR Committee's bi-annual Dispute Resolution Program at Pepperdine University, April 2012.
- 18. Presenter, Association of Family and Conciliation Courts Southern California Conference, "Team Mediation with Retired Judges and Mental Health Professionals." January 2012.
- 19. Panelist for program called, "Challenges of Making the Internal Mind Shift", as part of the Program held at Pepperdine University Law School, "Helping Families: New Directions in Consensual Dispute Resolution Cutting Edge Theories, Techniques, Tactics and Tools." April 10, 2010.
- 20. Presenter at the International Association of Collaborative Professionals, "Tiger Under the Table: Dealing with the Professional's Feelings that Arise during a Collaborative Case." San Diego, California, April 2007.
- 21. California presenter at the Council of Community Property States, "Valuing the Family Business", Madison, Wisconsin, April 2004.
- 22. Speaker at Family Mediation at UC Irvine, "Mediating Property Issues", August 2003.
- 23. Panelist, Association of Certified Family Law Specialists, "Tips for Practicing Family Law in the Central District of the Los Angeles Superior Court", 2003.
- 24. "A View from Family Court: How Family Court Addresses the Needs of Abused and Neglected Children". University of California at Davis Health System, Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, April 2002.
- 25. Panelist, "Providing Parent Education for Clients". Los Angeles County Bar, Family Law Section, Child Custody Colloquium, March 2000.
- 26. University of California at Irvine, guest speaker, "Divorce mediation." Spring 1999.

- 27. Mosten Mediation Training, "The Basics of Family Law", one day course given in October 1998 and April 1999.
- 28. Panelist, "Stupid Things Therapists do when they Become Involved in Litigation and New Approaches." Psychological Association of Los Angeles, 1998.
- 29. "Domestic Violence in Private Family Law Practice", California Women Lawyers, 1998.
- 30. University of Southern California, Graduate School of Psychology, Spring 1996, guest lecturer on mediation and the legal process for "Divorce and Remarriage".
- 31. Pepperdine University, 1996, guest lecturer.
- 32. "Making Mediation Work for You", 1996.

#### MINOR'S COUNSEL EXPERIENCE

- Minor's counsel in complex family law matters for the Honorable Bobbi Tillmon, retired Judge Jack Newman, Judge Alan Haber, Commissioner James Endman and Judge Harvey Silberman.
- 2. Former Member of the Minor's Counsel Committee through the Association of Certified Family Law Specialists.
- 3. Volunteer attorney and family law mentor for Public Counsel Children's Rights Project.
- 4. Former volunteer through the Los Angeles County Bar Juvenile Justice Program, mentoring ten, fourteen to eighteen year old juvenile delinquents.

#### **AWARDS AND HONORS**

- 1. Outstanding Volunteer Contributions to the Los Angeles Superior Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Program 2011.
- 2. Los Angeles Superior Court Alternative Dispute Resolution Program Honoree 2008.
- 3. Los Angeles Magazine Super Lawyer.
- 4. State Bar of California's Wiley W. Manuel Award for Pro Bono Legal Services, 1994.

5. National Association of Women Lawyers' Outstanding Woman Law Graduate of University of Southern California Law Center 1990-91.

# **EDUCATION**

JURIS DOCTOR, University of Southern California Law Center, 1990.

BACHELOR OF ARTS, Contemporary History, University of California at Davis, 1987.

MASTER'S OF ARTS, Clinical Psychology, Antioch University Los Angeles, 2018.