

Robert J. Rhudy

Bob Rhudy is an attorney, mediator, consultant, and trainer, with over thirty years experience in legal aid, public interest law, legislative advocacy, strategic planning, and nonprofit consulting in the United States, Canada, and other countries.

Rhudy served during 2009-2011 as Director of Mediation for the Maryland Court of Special Appeals (www.mdcourts.gov/cosappeals/mediation), where he created and managed a pilot civil appellate mediation program. His office mediated nearly 300 appellate cases (torts, contract, domestic, administrative agency, property, foreclosure, corporate, other) with a 67% settlement rate. Rhudy personally mediated over 125 cases in this program.

He is the founder and president of Senior Mediation and Decision-Making, Inc. (www.senior-mediation.org), a nonprofit organization that developed a statewide pilot senior mediation program in Maryland and provides training and consulting on mediation in family caregiving, adult guardianship, estate planning and other senior/elder conflict areas around the United States and Canada. His private mediation and facilitation practice has focused on senior mediation, family mediation, general civil mediation, and nonprofit organizational facilitation.

Rhudy was appointed by Chief Judge Robert Bell to the Maryland Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission, 1998-1999, and to the executive advisory committee of the Maryland Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office, 1999-2004. He served on Community Mediation Maryland's Board of Directors (2005-2010) and was chair of Association of Conflict Resolution-Maryland's Family/Senior/Health Care Mediation Committee (2006-2011). He was a founding chair of the Association for Conflict Resolution's Elder Decision-Making and Conflict Resolution Section (Washington, D.C., 2009-2010).

Bob was formerly executive director of Maryland Legal Services Corporation (1986-2003) and the Coalition for Legal Services (Washington, D.C., 1983-1985), and a chief attorney to Maryland's Legal Aid Bureau (1979-1983). He was previously of counsel to Allen, Babich and Bennett (Des Moines, IA, 1975-1978), with a focus on legislative and administrative advocacy. Rhudy has served as consultant to numerous state, national and international organizations on legal aid, access to justice, mediation, and related areas. He has taught poverty law, law and aging, and lobbying at the University of Iowa and University of Maryland, and has written numerous books, monographs, articles and columns in his professional areas.

He currently serves on the boards of directors of the National Equal Justice Library and Friends Committee on National Legislation, Washington, D.C. He previously served as president of the Iowa Civil Liberties Union, National Association of IOLTA Programs, and Maryland Association of Nonprofit Organizations, as chairman of Columbia, Maryland's city council, and on numerous other nonprofit boards.

Rhudy is a graduate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and University of Iowa College of Law. Bob may be reached at his law office at 1204 Bolton Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201, 410-669-7587, bobrhudy@yahoo.com.