JAMS Spotlight

Fun Facts about Ann T. Marshall, Esq.

She enjoys sailing on a 42-foot Pearson sailboat. She once crossed the Strait of Juan de Fuca during a small craft advisory and has no desire to do so again.

She is the youngest of seven children, which has given her a master class in negotiation skills.



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Ann T. Marshall, Esq.

Why did you choose to join JAMS?

I worked in team environments my entire career and always appreciated that dynamic. JAMS has top-notch panelists, IT, administration, professional training and resources that simply cannot be found elsewhere. This serves clients well and enables every panelist to perform at their best. I'm thankful to be able to practice ADR as a part of another exceptional team.

What do you enjoy most about being a neutral?

In my litigation practice, I always maintained a big-picture and practical outlook on cases, evaluating them at critical points along the way to analyze the costs, risks and benefits. As a neutral, I can focus entirely on case analysis and resolution, which I find most rewarding.

What practice areas are you particularly interested in developing at JAMS?

My wheelhouse is real estate. I worked with the title insurance industry for over 20 years and I am happy that, as a neutral, I can utilize the many problem-solving experiences with complex and multi-party cases that I gained. I also have substantial experience in commercial finance, consumer lending, insurance and construction. And one of my brothers is an electrician who works on major commercial construction sites, so I've gained a lot of practical industry knowledge from him.

What are your most successful traits as a mediator?

I successfully communicate with high-conflict people. As a young criminal defense lawyer, I was often selected to represent clients when their lawyers withdrew due to communication break¬downs, which I handled successfully. I may have "accidentally" dropped my pen under the table a time or two during motions to withdraw when the judge began looking around for a new lawyer to appoint! Kidding aside, I can usually establish dialogue in acrimonious situations, a necessary first step to resolution. And I am nothing less than relentless at finding solutions—no assumption goes unexamined.

What is your relationship with former colleagues?

For me there exists no greater compliment than former opposing counsel requesting my service. And I am honored that in my neutral role I now help many attorneys who were previously adversaries.

Who is one of your role models?

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg took her seat on the U.S. Supreme Court the year I graduated from law school. In some way, she felt like a companion throughout my career. Regarding parenting while in law school, she said: "Each part of my life provided respite from the other and gave me a sense of proportion that classmates trained only on law studies lacked." This is one of my favorite quotes because she found advantage in what others deemed an obstacle. In so many ways, she defined power for women, particularly those in the legal profession. I hope that her legacy inspires us to continue her work of empowerment.

To contact Ms. Marshall directly, visit jamsadr.com/marshall or email amarshall@jamsadr.com.