



ROBERT ADAMS, ESQ.

Former Sr. Vice President, Risk Management, Tishman Construction Corporation

Robert Adams, Esq. has been committed to the practice of law for over twenty-five years with a long and distinguished career in the legal profession. Prior to becoming a full-time mediator and arbitrator with NAM, Mr. Adams was a well-known and highly respected Senior Vice President of Risk Management with Tishman Construction Corporation and its international parent company, AECOM. In this role, he was responsible for managing all aspects of litigation nationwide, from inception through trial, including but not limited to, matters involving the rebuilding of the World Trade Center site.

Mr. Adams has overseen highly complex cases with exposure well into the six and seven figure range. In addition to the aforementioned, he also traveled around the country to mediate cases on behalf of Tishman Hotel Corp. Robert Adams has mediated cases in Florida, Illinois, New Mexico, Puerto Rico, as well as numerous states in the northeastern United States. This experience has allowed him to develop an expertise in navigating the complex insurance issues concerning priority of coverage (vertical vs. horizontal exhaustion of primary policies) which often presents a major hurdle to resolving high exposure cases. As part of his responsibilities for litigation management and risk management at Tishman Construction Corporation, Mr. Adams developed a depth of knowledge involving key areas of civil engineering.



A testament to his national reputation within the field of alternative dispute resolution (ADR), Mr. Adams was voted a Top Three Mediator in recent National Law Journal and Corporate Counsel Best of Surveys. In 2022, he was voted a Top Ten Mediator by the New York Law Journal Best of Survey, and he has consistently been ranked a Top Ten Mediator since the survey's inception. Further, he was named a National Law Journal Alternative Dispute Resolution Champion, as part of a select group of only 48 nationwide. Mr. Adams was also voted a Top 5 International Mediator in the New York Law Journal Survey in 2012, the only year the category was ranked.

Prior to joining Tishman Construction Corp., Robert Adams was a senior equity partner at the national law firm of Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman and Dicker. In this capacity he managed a varied international practice wherein he represented clients in fields such as construction, product liability, entertainment, premises liability, appellate practice and insurance coverage disputes. As a litigator, he developed an affinity towards ADR, and counseled his broad clientele to consider this mechanism as a means towards finalizing time consuming and costly litigation.

Mr. Adams has participated on several occasions in the FERMA (Federation of European Risk Management Association) conference in Europe. Having lived in France for several years while playing professional basketball following his undergraduate career at Colgate University, he is fluent in the French language and subsequently did a great deal of work in the French market.

He has also been a featured speaker about crisis management at the most prominent construction conference in the United States, the IRMI Conference. Robert Adams also has a very unique avocation. He is a nationally recognized NCAA Division I men's basketball official. He has been selected to referee in eight NCAA Division I tournaments (96 officials in the country are selected each year) and has officiated the NIT championship game in the past. In 2010, he was chosen to officiate the nationally televised game in Madison Square Garden between eventual national champion Duke and top ten ranked Gonzaga.

Mr. Adams' integrity and legal acumen has permitted him to gain the respect and confidence of both the plaintiff and defense bars. His vast knowledge and experience, as well as his longtime support of alternative dispute resolution, makes him an exceptionally well-rounded and effective full-time mediator.

AREAS OF EXPERIENCE

- Appellate Practice
- Construction
- Entertainment and the Arts
- Insurance
- Insurance Coverage Disputes
- International Contracts
- Negligence
- Premises Liability
- Sports Law
- Torts and Product Liability
- Tourism Industry
- Transportation

LECTURES and PUBLICATIONS

- Speaker, IRMI International Risk Management Institute Conference, 2000
- Speaker, *Introduction to Alternative Dispute Resolution*, Ringler Associates, Inc., 2019
- Speaker, *Mediation: The Process- How to Achieve a Positive Result for your Client*, presented to Defense Association of New York (DANY), Past Presidents' Dinner, 2014

HONORS and AWARDS

- New York Law Journal Best of Survey, 2022, Top Ten – Best Individual Mediator Category
- New York Law Journal Best of Survey, 2021, Top Ten – Best Individual Mediator Category
- Ranked the #3 Mediator in the United States by the 2017 National Law Journal Reader Rankings Survey
- National Law Journal, *2016 Alternative Dispute Resolution Champion*
- New York Law Journal Reader Rankings Survey 2016, Top Ten - Best Individual Mediator Category
- New York Law Journal Reader Rankings Survey 2015, Top Ten - Best Individual Mediator Category
- Ranked the #2 Mediator in the United States by the 2014 National Law Journal Reader Rankings Survey
- New York Law Journal Reader Rankings Survey 2014, Top Ten - Best Individual Mediator Category
- New York Law Journal Reader Rankings Survey 2013, Top Ten - Best Individual Mediator Category
- New York Law Journal Reader Rankings Survey 2012, Top Ten - Best Individual Mediator Category
- New York Law Journal Reader Rankings Survey 2012, Top Five - Best International Mediator Category
- New York Law Journal Reader Rankings Survey 2011, Top Ten - Best Individual Mediator Category

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

- Senior Vice-President of Risk Management, Tishman Realty and Construction Corporation, 2008-2011
- Senior Equity Partner and Trial Lawyer, Wilson, Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman and Dicker, LLP, 1986-2007

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES and ADMISSIONS

- Admitted to practice in the State of New York, 1986
- Admitted to practice in the State of Connecticut, 1986
- Admitted to U.S. District Court, Southern and Eastern Districts of New York

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS and ASSOCIATIONS

- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, New York State Bar Association
- Member, Judicial Screening Committee, City of White Plains, 2006-2009

EDUCATION

- Pace University School of Law, J.D., 1986
- State University of New York at Stony Brook, M.A., 1981
- Colgate University, B.A., 1977

LANGUAGES

- English and French