

Geoff Sharp's Background

Until the late 1990's Geoff was a litigation partner with Bell Gully, one of New Zealand's largest commercial law firms, before joining the Independent Bar where he set about building a commercial mediation practice.

Before that Geoff spent his early legal career at Mallesons in Melbourne and is admitted to the Bar in both New Zealand and Australia.

For the last decade, Geoff has been a full time commercial mediator and is accredited under the National Australian Mediation Standards and is a member of the Advanced Mediation Panels of both LEADR (Adv.M.LEADR) and AMINZ (AAMINZ), the only two recognised professional mediator organisations in New Zealand. He also belongs to the Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre's Panel of Accredited Mediators.

He works exclusively as a mediator in a broad range of commercial and interpersonal disputes and over the last ten years has mediated hundreds of cases for a large number of New Zealand's law firms who deal with contentious matters.

Geoff mixes a busy commercial practice with academic duties having been invited to participate in Bond University's Distinguished Practitioner in Residence Programme and is an advisory board member of the Singapore Management University's newly founded Centre for Dispute Resolution located in SMU's School of Law in Singapore. He has also taught as part of the visiting faculty at California's Pepperdine University Law School at its annual summer Professional Skills Programme for Mediators. He has also lectured at Victoria and Massey Universities.

In addition Geoff is a Vice Chair of the Independent Standards Commission of the International Mediation Institute (IMI) based in The Hague currently setting global mediator credentialing standards and, closer to home, was appointed the Australasian LEADR 2009/2010 Fellow, being the first New Zealander and only the third LEADR Fellow appointed to date.

Geoff was also the first Australasian mediator to be elected a distinguished fellow of the International Academy of Mediators (USA).



Panel Membership

- Arbitrators' and Mediators' Institute of New Zealand Mediation Panel
- LEADR Advanced Mediation Panel
- Accredited National Australian Mediation Standards
- The International Academy of Mediators
- The Weathertight Homes Resolution Service Mediation Panel
- Office of the Domain Name Commissioner Panel of Mediators
- The Health and Disability Commissioner Panel of Mediators
- Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre Mediation Panel

Training

Geoff has a Bachelor of Laws from Victoria University and a Diploma in Business Studies (Dispute Resolution) from Massey University.

Geoff has trained lawyers in New Zealand, Australia, USA, Samoa, Thailand and Malaysia on aspects of mediation.

These include lawyers from Kensington Swan, Bell Gully, Chapman Tripp, Morrison Kent, Simpson Grierson, Buddle Findlay, Morgan Coakle, Brookfields, Otago District Law Society and others.

Geoff has received formal mediation training by a number of institutions including Harvard Law School (Boston), CDR Associates (Colorado) and Bond University (Queensland) as well as LEADR and Massey University and often speaks at international conferences including a keynote closing address to the 1st Asian Mediation Association Conference in Singapore (2009).

For further details, including engagement information please visit www.geoffsharp.co.nz



Contact Details: Level 8, Wakefield House, 90 The Terrace, PO Box 10 731, Wellington, New Zealand

Telephone: +64 4 499 5395

mediate@geoffsharp.co.nz

www.geoffsharp.co.nz