



Of Counsel
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Hackensack, NJ

Practice Areas

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Admitted

New Jersey

Education

Seton Hall University School of Law (J.D., 1964)
Lafayette College (A.B., 1957)

Honorable Gerald C. Escala is Of Counsel at the firm in the Business Litigation Department. He concentrates his practice on Alternative Dispute Resolution and Mediation.

Judge Escala was appointed to the Superior Court of New Jersey in 1991, assigned first to the Family Part in Bergen County, where he became Presiding Judge until 1998, when he was designated as Chancery Division Judge until his retirement in 2006. From 2006 to 2011, he was Special Counsel at Archer, and its predecessor firm Herten Burstein, where he provided mediation and arbitration services, and served as a Hearing Officer for governmental entities in disciplinary and election matters for Bergen County. He was recalled to the bench from 2011 to 2016 to assist in the Chancery Division, handling most of the contested foreclosure cases in Bergen County, hearing matters in the Family Part, and conducting settlement conferences for Chancery, Probate and Family matters. In 2016, he returned to Archer.

Before his appointment to the Superior Court bench, Judge Escala served as a municipal court judge in Rockleigh, Demarest, Westwood, and Washington Township, all in Bergen County. Prior to that, he had been a prosecutor in Englewood.

Judge Escala earned his J.D. from Seton Hall University School of Law in 1964 and his A.B. from Lafayette College in 1957. In between, he attended Columbia University Graduate Faculties, pursuing a doctorate in Russian History. Judge Escala was also a teacher in the paralegal studies program at Bergen Community College.