

Colleen Connelly

Mediator | Arbitrator | Attorney

 714.716.1610

 colleen@perseverelaw.com

 Tustin, CA 92780

Professional Summary	Experienced mediator, arbitrator and attorney with a focus on labor and employment law, encompassing a broad range of areas. Extensive firsthand litigation experience in courts and arbitration and years of experience managing litigation for diverse companies. Additionally, skilled as a neutral investigator in employment disputes and experienced mediator of employment, commercial and personal injury disputes.
Current Employer-Title	Persevere Law & Mediation, P.C. - Owner
Profession	Mediator, Arbitrator, Attorney
Work History	Owner, Persevere Law & Mediation, P.C., 2025-Present; General Counsel, Orora Packaging Solutions, 2017-2025; Employment Counsel, UTi Worldwide, 2013-2017; Associate General Counsel, E. & J. Gallo Winery, 2002-2013; Associate, McCutchen, Doyle, Brown & Enersen, 1997-2002.
Employment Practice Experience	Expertise with issues involving: Bullying, collective actions, disability, discrimination (age, ethnicity, gender, national origin, sexual orientation), executive employment contracts, Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), harassment, independent contractor disputes, misclassification, non-compete, pregnancy/maternity/paternity, retaliation, severance, Title VII, wage and hour, whistleblower, workplace investigation.
Labor Practice Experience	Expertise with issues involving contract interpretation, discipline and discharge. As an advocate, negotiated multiple collective bargaining agreements with a variety of unions and across various industries. Handled numerous grievances and arbitrations involving contract language disputes and discipline and discharge cases. Experience with certification and de-certification efforts, strikes as well as issues before the National Labor Relations Board and Agricultural Labor Relations Board.

Panels	American Arbitration Association (Employment Arbitration) Alaska Labor Relations Agency List of Mediators, Arbitrators and Fact Finders Nevada Employee-Management Relations Board Rosters of Neutrals
Issues	Absenteeism, arbitrability, bargaining unit work, benefits, conduct, demotion, disability, discharge, discipline, discrimination, job classification and rates, job posting, layoffs/bumping/recall, leaves of absence, management rights, overtime, past practices, safety, sexual harassment, subcontracting, violence/threats, wages, work hours/schedules/assignments, working conditions.
Industries	Agriculture, Amusement & Theme Parks, Contract Logistics, Distribution, Entertainment & Hospitality, Freight Forwarding, Food & Beverage, Glass, Manufacturing, Packaging, Printing, and Wine & Spirits.
Education	University of Virginia (JD-1997); Kenyon College (BA-1994).
Professional Licenses	Admitted to Bar: California (1997); U.S. District Court: Northern (1997), Southern (1999), and Central (2025) Districts of California.
Volunteer Work	Groundswell (Lead Mediator, Aug 2025–Present); Resolve LA (Settlement Conference Officer, Nov 2025–Present); Superior Court of Los Angeles Mediation Volunteer Panel (Mediator, Nov 2025–Present); Beverly Hills Bar Association (Mediator and Arbitrator, Mar 2026–Present).
Licenses and Admissions	California State Bar, California District Courts (Southern, Northern and Central)
Professional Associations	Member, Southern California Mediation Association, Association of Workplace Investigators, Orange County Bar Association, Los Angeles County Bar Association

Labor Mediation and Arbitration Fee Schedule

Prices are for zoom or in-person mediations and arbitrations in Orange County, California. Additional fees will be charged for in-person mediation/arbitration outside of Orange County.

- Half-Day (up to 4 hours): \$1200.00
- Full-Day (up to 8 hours): \$2400.00
- Additional Time: \$300.00 per hour
- Admin Fee: \$150.00 per party

I do not provide in-person facilities for mediations/arbitrations. If the parties do not have access to local offices/conference rooms, we can work together to coordinate alternative arrangements.

Cancellation policy: Scheduled mediations/arbitrations must be cancelled in writing to colleen@perseverelaw.com seven (7) business days in advance of the scheduled mediation/arbitration date to avoid cancellation fees. Scheduled mediations/arbitrations which are not cancelled within this time frame will be charged 50% of the agreed upon mediation fee.

Additional Information

- Travel Fees outside of Orange County, California: Billed at \$0.70 per mile and 50% of applicable hourly rate

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