

RUTH GLICK '91 THIRD TIME'S THE CHARM

Ask **Ruth Glick '91** about her unusual career path, and the Burlingame-based mediator and arbitrator breaks into a warm laugh. "Law is my third career," she says. "I like to say that I was so busy with disputes in my first two careers that I had to become a lawyer as a way to resolve them."

Though she entered Hastings at an older age than most of her classmates, Glick was always interested in law. She was accepted at Northwestern Law School at a time when few women attended law school, but instead ended up trading on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, where she became one of its first female traders. At the exchange, she learned efficient negotiation strategies, often settling monetary disputes that arose among traders. "With big money at stake, trading is rife with conflict," she says, "and it is important to work things out quickly."

If her experience in business gave her a foundation in the art of negotiation, her second career—as a live TV-show host—honed her interpersonal skills as a neutral party. On her financial interview program, a daily live half-hour show called *The Market Basket*, Glick proved to be an evenhanded moderator who built consensus among disparate guests, including business leaders and government officials.

Realizing that dispute resolution was the common thread throughout her career choices, Glick decided to pursue it full-time. She enrolled at UC Hastings, where she plunged into her coursework. She went on to teach arbitration law at Hastings as an adjunct professor for 10 years and remains actively involved with the law school today. "ADR is one of many tools that lawyers should have," she says, "and Hastings, with its extremely knowledgeable faculty, has one of the premier ADR programs in the country."

In 1994, Glick set up her shingle as a mediator and arbitrator, focusing on business, labor, and employment disputes. She has handled such diverse cases as a class action sexual harassment suit brought by female stock brokers at Smith Barney and a dispute over dividing the proceeds from recovered Holocaust art.

Sought after for the skills and temperament she brings to the table, Glick is active in the alternative dispute resolution community and was honored in 2008 with an Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Mediation award by the Mediation Society of San Francisco. Her trajectory has been far from the usual path, but it has served her—and her clients—well. "The study of law gives you discipline in logical thinking and fact gathering," she says. "But it takes life experience to develop good judgment."

Dispute Resolution Conference Comes to San Francisco

Ruth Glick is cochairing the 12th annual spring conference of the American Bar Association Dispute Resolution Section, scheduled to take place April 7–10, 2010, at the Hyatt Embarcadero.



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