

## **RUTI K BELL, ESQ.**



Ruti K Bell is President of MEDIATION & CLOSURE GROUP. Her Alternative Dispute Resolution practice consists of pre- and post-suit cases, in all areas of law, including family law, insurance, landlord-tenant and real property, general commercial litigation, employment law, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), as well as discrimination cases in employment, housing, education, and places of public accommodation.

Ruti is also a mediator for the 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuits, a FINRA arbitrator, a pro bono attorney at Americans for Immigrant Justice, an award-winning non-profit law firm, and an Adjunct Professor at Lynn

University.

In 1994, Ruti served as a law clerk for the United States Department of Justice, Office of Immigration Judge, where she prepared pre-hearing motions and bench memoranda, conducted research of novel legal issues, and drafted decisions taken under advisement.

Ruti joined the Civil Rights Bureau of the New York State Attorney General's Office in 1995, where she served as an Assistant Attorney General, as well as Deputy Bureau Chief. During her time at the Attorney General's Office, Ruti was appointed as the Disability Rights Coordinator for New York State. Furthermore, Ruti served as the Legislative Liaison for the Bureau for six years.

Ruti has handled all phases of litigation from investigation to pleadings, discovery, trial and appeal, in complex affirmative civil rights cases, in federal and state court.

In addition, Ruti has lectured and trained private and public entities, including police departments and code enforcement officials, regarding disability rights laws. Ruti has also lectured at state and national conferences, including State Human Rights agencies, the American Bar Association, and the National Association of Attorneys General Civil Rights Conferences. In 2017 Ruti presented a CLE/CME on civil rights to the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit, and in April of 2019, Ruti presented a CLE/CME on immigration and mediation to the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit as well.

Licenses, Certifications & Memberships: Ruti is a Florida certified County, Circuit Civil, Family and Appellate Mediator, as well as an Adjunct Professor at Lynn University. Ruti is a member of the Florida Academy of Professional Mediators, Inc., the Association of South Florida Mediators and Arbitrators, the South Palm Beach County Bar Association, the Florida Association for Women Lawyers, the Broward County Bar Association, as well as the American Bar Association. Ruti is also a FINRA arbitrator as well as an attorney, licensed in New York.

Ruti's charitable interests and involvement are varied and include support for numerous medical, social, law enforcement and artistic organizations.

Ruti received her Bachelor of Arts from New York University and her Juris Doctor from Pace Law School, where she served as a Research and Writing Editor on the International Law Review. Ruti is a recipient of the State of New York, Office of the Attorney General, Louis J. Lefkowitz Award. Ruti is fluent in English and Hebrew.

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