

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



Ruti K Bell, Esq. is President of MEDIATION & CLOSURE GROUP. Her Alternative Dispute Resolution practice largely consists of pre-suit and post-suit family law cases, general commercial litigation, complex employment law cases, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) cases, and discrimination cases in employment, housing, education, and places of public accommodation.

Ruti is also a volunteer mediator for the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit as well as a pro bono attorney at Americans for Immigrant Justice, an award-winning non-profit law firm that protects and promotes the basic human rights of immigrants.

In 1994, Ruti served as a law clerk for the United States Department of Justice, 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 actively 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. Most recently, Ruti presented a CME on Civil Rights to the mediators of the 15<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit.

Licenses, Certifications & Memberships: Ruti is a Florida certified County, Circuit Civil, Family and Appellate Mediator. 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 – South Palm Beach County Chapter, the Broward County Bar Association, as well as the American Bar Association, where she serves on the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Committee, as well as the Rights of Women Committee. Ruti is also an attorney, licensed in New York.

Ruti's charitable interests and involvement include: JDRF, Susan G Komen, Florence Fuller, SOS Children's Village, Grand St Settlement, NYU Langone Medical Center, Mount Sinai Medical Center, the Child Mind Institute, Boca Raton Regional Hospital, the Boca Raton Police Foundation, and the Boca Museum of Art.

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.

**[www.mediationandclosuregroup.com](http://www.mediationandclosuregroup.com) | 561.203.1733 | [rbell@mediationandclosuregroup.com](mailto:rbell@mediationandclosuregroup.com)**