

Honorable Robert Neal Hunter, Jr

Profession: Attorney; Arbitrator; Mediator; Retired Appellate Jurist.

Professional Licenses: Admitted: North Carolina State Bar, 1973; United States Federal District Courts in North Carolina 1973 ; U.S Court of Appeals: Fourth Circuit (1974) and United States Supreme Court (1983).

Current Employer/Title: Higgins, Benjamin, PLLC. Of Counsel

Work History: Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals and Justice Supreme Court of N.C.(Fall term, 2014) 2009 to April 1, 2019; Partner and Co-Founder, Hunter, Higgins PLLC, 2000-2009; Partner, Patton, Boggs PLLC. 1992-1999. Private Practice 1974-1999.

Professional Associations: American Bar Association, North Carolina Bar Association, Greensboro Bar Association, North Carolina, North Carolina Advocates for Justice.

Education: UNC-Chapel Hill, B.A., 1969; UNC School of Law J.D., 1973; Duke University School of Law, LLM, 2014.

Experience: For the past ten years, I heard civil appeals. These included authoring opinions reviewing N.C. Business court decisions involving director breach of fiduciary duty, corporate dissolution, “fairness” of class action settlements, misappropriation of confidential information and trade secrets, and dissenting shareholder claims. Other opinions I have authored involved enforcement of construction liens, calculation of equitable adjustments in construction delay claims, worker’s compensation issues, insurance coverage and damage claims, medical malpractice claims, condemnation, zoning, homeowner’s association disputes and routine personal injury

claims. Over 800 opinions I authored for the court are available in Westlaw.

Prior to my judicial service, my general practice included the fair labor standards act, federal securities law, class actions, real property and probate. A substantial portion of my practice was devoted to the law of democracy including disputed election contests, redistricting, voting rights and equal protection claims. As an adjunct professor of law at Wake Forest School of Law, Elon University School of Law and North Carolina Central University School of Law. I taught appellate advocacy and the law of democracy.

Alternative Dispute

Resolution Experience: In 1992, I became a certified superior court mediator in the first class ADR professionals licensed in North Carolina. In 1994 I became an arbitrator for the National Association of Securities (NASA now FINRA) Prior to my judicial career I mediated approximately 100 cases. As an NASA arbitrator I sat on 30 panels and served as Chairman on 9 panels. In my private practice, AAA dispute resolution clauses requiring arbitration were routinely included in contracts for my international investor clients. This resulted in numerous arbitrations in which I served as claimants counsel for breach of contract claims in California, Nevada, Texas, New York, Florida, and North Carolina.

Awards and Honors: Outstanding Appellate Judge of the Year 2011 - N.C. Advocates for Justice; 2013 McNeill Smith Constitutional Rights and Responsibilities Section Award; 2017 Leadership in the Law Award - Elon Law and Lawyer's Weekly.

Alternative Resolution Dispute Training: 2019 AAA Arbitration Fundamentals and Best Practices for New Arbitrators, 2018 AAA Addressing the Challenges of Demanding Arbitrations: The Pre-Hearing Landscape, the Hearing Phase, the Award and Beyond; UNC CLE Superior Court Judges Conference, Enforceability of Arbitration Awards 2018, NASD Introduction to Securities

Arbitration Training, 1994; NASD New Chairperson Training 2004.

Compensation:	Hearing	\$400.00/hr
	Study	\$400.00/hr
	Travel	No hourly charge, out of pocket expenses only
	Cancellation	No charge
	Cancelation Period	1 day