



## **Hon. John K. Trotter (Ret.)**

Trustee  
Fire Victim Trust  
2 Embarcadero Center  
Suite 1500  
San Francisco, CA 94111  
[www.firevictimtrust.com](http://www.firevictimtrust.com)

### **Biography**

Hon. John K. Trotter (Ret.) joined JAMS in 1987 upon early retirement from the California Court of appeal. Justice Trotter has gained a reputation as one of the nation's leading experts in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) and has a thorough knowledge of all ADR hearing formats and procedures. Justice Trotter retired from JAMS in 2020 when he became Trustee of the Fire Victim Trust.

### **ADR Experience and Qualifications**

- Successfully resolved in excess of 10,000 case involving:
  - Bad Faith
  - Class Actions
  - Complex Business Disputes
  - Contract Disputes
  - Employment
  - Insurance Coverage
  - Mass Torts
  - Pharmaceuticals
  - Personal Injury
  - Professional Liability
  - Toxic Torts

- Served as a Special Master in several Multi District Litigation Pharmaceutical matters including Zyprexa I, Zyprexa II, Baycol, Rezulin, Vioxx, and other complex cases in both Federal and State court supervising the claims and payment to thousands of plaintiffs in each litigation
- Served as Special Master in the Toyota Sudden Acceleration case
- Supervised the resolution of all the victims' claims arising out of the 2007 San Diego fires Authored many significant and far reaching opinions while on the Court of Appeal
- Served on the Law and Motion, Settlement Conference, and Civil Trial Court calendars of the Orange County Superior Court
- Specialized in civil litigation and tried in excess of 100 jury trials in State and Federal Court while in private practice

## Honors, Memberships, and Professional Activities

- Recognized as Best Lawyers, *Best Lawyers*
- Most Influential Attorney in ADR, *National Law Journal*
- Recognized as a Top Master, *Daily Journal*
- Orange County Mediation Lawyer of the Year, *Best Lawyers*
- Orange County ADR Lawyer of the Year, *Best Lawyers*
- Lifetime Achievement Award for his distinguished career as an attorney, judge, and major contributor to the advancement of ADR, Orange County Trial Lawyers Association
- Recognized as a Best Lawyer, Alternative Dispute Resolution Category, *Best Lawyers in America*
- "Appellate Justice of the Year" Award, California Trial Lawyers Association "Justice of the Year Award", Los Angeles Trial Lawyers Association
- "Franklin G. West" Award, Lifetime Achievement Award, Orange County Bar Association "Award of Appreciation", Mexican-American Bar Association
- Founding President, Robert A. Banyard Inns of Court Past President, Orange County Bar Association
- Past President, American Board of Trial Advocates Disciplinary Hearing Officer, California State Bar Association
- Faculty Member: College of Trial Advocacy, National Institute of Trial Advocacy
- Taught Negotiation and Mediation Techniques to judges, attorneys, and business people throughout California

## Background and Education

- Associate Justice Pro Tem, California State Supreme Court
- Presiding Justice, California Court of Appeal, Fourth District, Division Three
- Associate Justice, California Court of Appeal, Fourth District, Division Two
- Judge, Orange County Superior Court
- Private practice
- LL.B., University of Southern California Law School
- B.A., University of Southern California
- Santa Monica City College
- U.S. Army, Serving in Korea and Hawaii, 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, Honorable Discharge, Rank Staff Sergeant
- Loyola Marymount University

# News

- April 23, 2020  
**JAMS Neutrals Appointed as Trustee and Claims Administrator in PG&E Bankruptcy**  
<https://www.jamsadr.com/news/2020/jams-neutrals-appointed-as-trustee-and-claims-administrator-in-pge-bankruptcy>
- August 19, 2019  
**Five JAMS Panelists Named “Lawyers of the Year” and 59 JAMS Panelists Recognized As “Best Lawyers in America” by Best Lawyers®**  
<https://www.jamsadr.com/news/2019/five-jams-panelists-named-lawyers-of-the-year-and-59-jams-panelists-recognized-as-best-lawyers-in-america-by-best-lawyers>
- August 15, 2018  
**Two JAMS Panelists Named Best Lawyers’ “Lawyers of the Year;” 57 JAMS Panelists Recognized as 2019 Best Lawyers in America**  
<https://www.jamsadr.com/news/2018/two-jams-panelists-named-best-lawyers-lawyers-of-the-year-57-jams-panelists-recognized-as-2019-best-lawyers-in-america>