



KEITH L. SEAT, Esq.

partner



Keith, a principal and partner with Certus Strategies, U.S., LLC, has over twenty-five years of legal experience working at senior levels in corporate, government and law firm environments addressing telecommunications, energy, public policy and other complex issues. Keith is a full-time mediator, facilitator and arbitrator, with a strong telecommunications/technology background and extensive experience resolving commercial disputes. He is a distinguished fellow of the International Academy of Mediators.

Keith has substantial experience in working to find common ground among companies, groups and government agencies on deeply-held policy positions and related matters, with notable success in bringing divergent groups together to reach outcomes satisfactory for all involved. In private practice, Keith participated in various forms of alternative dispute resolution as an advocate, as well as a neutral. While on the Hill, he worked with numerous parties seeking inconsistent outcomes on telecommunications, antitrust and other policy issues and was often able to help the various sides coalesce around a concept and formulation that all could support. For example, in the Digital Performance Rights in Sound Recordings Act, many months of effort nearly floundered on the inability of the recording industry and the U.S. Department of Justice to work out adequate antitrust language. After many discussions of the issue, Keith brought both sides together and in a single session worked out language acceptable to all that enabled quick enactment. Similarly, in the International Antitrust Enforcement Assistance Act, he worked with concerned parties to resolve legitimate confidentiality issues raised by commercial interests while still achieving the international law enforcement goals behind the legislation.

Keith is an adjunct professor of Alternative Dispute Resolution at the University of Maryland School of Law, a board member of the Global Negotiation Insight Institute and frequently trains and speaks on mediation. Keith was formerly the General Counsel of the Antitrust, Business Rights and Competition Subcommittee of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee where he played a significant role in the enactment of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. He was senior in-house counsel at a major telecommunications firm for six years and previously practiced law for many years as a litigator at Howrey LLP, following a federal judicial clerkship. Keith received mediation training at the Harvard Negotiation Insight Initiative at Harvard Law School and the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution at Pepperdine University School of Law.