



STEVEN SHAPIRO, Esq.

partner



Steve has nearly thirty years of experience working in the areas of public consultation, mediation, facilitation and designing conflict management systems for complex, multi-party situations. As a principal and partner of Certus Strategies, U.S., LLC., Steve develops and implements public engagement and outrage management plans throughout the U.S. on projects, as well as assisting parties in coming to consensus on policy disputes.

Steve is considered one of the premiere neutrals in the country in the energy, environment and commercial fields combining his experience in conflict management along with his knowledge of energy and environmental project development. Steve serves on the prestigious energy rosters of the International Center for Conflict Prevention and Resolution and the American Arbitration Association. He is a Hearing Examiner for the Reliability First Corporation, the Southeast Reliability Council, the Midwest Reliability Organization and the Florida Reliability Coordinating Council. Steve also serves as a neutral for other regional transmission organizations and independent system operators. Steve is appointed as a mediator by several Maryland Circuit Courts and is the Chairman of the Maryland State Bar Association's Dispute Resolution Section. He also serves on the Cornell University Roster providing expert neutral services in the nuclear energy field. Steve was certified in Advanced Mediation by Harvard University School of Law in 1999 and is admitted to practice in Maryland and the District of Columbia.

Steve previously served for many years as the Alternative Dispute Resolution Specialist for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. In this capacity, he resolved many matters dealing with project development in the natural gas and hydro-relicensing areas where stakeholder and public outrage were concerns to the Commission. He trained Commission staff in "Dealing with Difficult People" as a way to interact effectively when working with the public. Working as a neutral in litigated matters, Steve has had profound impact on the nation's energy markets including establishing the Large Generator Interconnection Agreement and Procedures and the Reliability Pricing Model for the PJM (Mid-Atlantic) Markets. Steve served as an Assistant General Counsel with Continental Telephone Corp., a fortune 200 firm and was in charge of all contracts that provided telecommunications systems and maintenance at military bases across the U.S..

Steve publishes and speaks on the subject of energy law and dispute resolution and has served as the Chair of the Energy Bar Association's Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee. Steve has acted as a guest lecturer for the Office of Personnel Management's Executive Training Facility, George Washington University School of Law and the Catholic University School of Law on the subject of Dispute Resolution.