

## **Robert E. Dezort**

### ***Partner***

Cleveland/Columbus

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### ***Service Focus***

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Litigation and Trials

### ***Industry Focus***

- Retail
- Automotive Dealership
- Energy

### ***Overview***

Bob Dezort is no stranger to the limitations of traditional litigation. He knows it's expensive and uncertain, and saps precious time and resources from the parties. Lawsuits take an enormous emotional toll on everyone involved and, ultimately, expose the parties to potentially catastrophic liability and reputational damage.

As a litigator for more than three decades, Bob developed expertise in helping his clients favorably resolve their legal disputes while avoiding the burdens of litigation by using predictive case assessment techniques, creative resolution tactics, and advanced negotiation skills. Today, as a professional mediator, he draws upon this experience to help parties choose self-determined outcomes to their disputes rather than leaving their fates in the hands of strangers – judges, juries, or arbitrators.

Bob's approach to mediation is to elevate what really matters to resolving disputes: meaningful dialogue and collaborative problem-solving. By focusing on these vital cornerstones, he's able to guide parties through the fog of conflict toward the beacon of resolution. His approach allows parties to realize the advantages of control, closure, certainty, and cost containment – benefits that are unattainable through traditional litigation.

Building on his service as a pro bono mediator for the EEOC for over a decade, Bob works as a private mediator helping individuals and organizations navigate challenging employment, business, contract, tort, and other disputes. Committed to excellence, he has earned a Professional Mediation Certification from the prestigious Scheinman Institute on Conflict Resolution at Cornell University.

Bob takes immense pride in facilitating positive and empowering mediations which enable parties to reach their own sustainable resolutions.

## ***Credentials***

### **Education**

- Professional Mediation Certification, 2023, Cornell University Scheinman Institute on Conflict Resolution
- J.D., 1992, magna cum laude, Cleveland State University, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law
- B.A., 1989, College of William & Mary

### **Bar Admissions**

- Ohio

### **Court Admissions**

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio

## ***Affiliations***

### **Professional Activities**

- Master of the Bench, Cleveland Employment Inns of Court (2012-Present)

### **Community Activities**

- West Side Catholic Center; St. Edward High School Alumni Association