

Wendell A. Bell

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Alternative Dispute Resolution

- NMB Roster of Arbitrators: PL Boards 7959-7962 Procedural; PLB 7814; PLB 7650
- Qualified neutral under Rule 114 of the Minnesota General Rules of Practice (Civil Adjudicative/Evaluative and Facilitative/Hybrid panels)

Employment and Experience

Arbitrator and Mediator, 2014-present

BNSF Railway and predecessors, 1967-2013: started as a unionized Clerk; then, held increasingly responsible positions in the Labor Relations Department

- Forty years' experience as an arbitration advocate. Was personally responsible for briefing and arguing many of the most difficult and consequential labor arbitration cases. Prepared and presented hundreds of rights (contract interpretation) and grievance (discipline) cases, as well as scores of interest arbitration cases. As head of the arbitration section, established and administered all types of arbitrations.
- Experienced in nearly all employment issues, including employee protective conditions, discipline, seniority, work rules, scope/classification of work, fringe benefits and matters presenting significant legal or medical complexities.
- Drafted and negotiated major collective bargaining agreements affecting the wages, rules and working conditions of thousands of employees. Handled labor relations matters to accomplish corporate transactions (like mergers, acquisitions, asset sales), reaching necessary Implementing Agreements with involved union leaders.
- BNSF's representative on the industry-wide Joint Labor-Management Health and Welfare Subcommittee, which controlled the rail industry's health benefit plans and vendor relations.

Education

- Admitted to the practice of law in Minnesota, Texas and federal courts
- Northwestern University School of Law, J.D.; Knox College, B.A. *cum laude*; National Merit Scholarship recipient

Personal

- Council Member, ADR Section, Minnesota State Bar Association
- Lexington Group
- Political volunteer and delegate
- Environment, Transportation Committees of Neighborhood Assn.
- Other community group service
- Ask me about my grandson!