

RICHARD J. FIGURA

RICHARD J. FIGURA, P.C.
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Of Counsel to: SIMEN, FIGURA & PARKER, P.L.C., Flint, MI

EDUCATION: B.A., Wayne State University, 1966
J.D., Wayne State University Law School, 1969
SCAO approved mediation training, Oakland Mediation Center, 2001

PROFESSIONAL LICENSING: State of Michigan, 1969
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan, 1970
U.S. District Court, Western District of Michigan, 2006
U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, 1984

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS: State Bar of Michigan
Public Corporation Law Section (past board member)
Alternative Dispute Resolution Section (member of section council)
Grand Traverse-Leelanau-Antrim Bar Association
ADR Committee
Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys (past president)
Member of the AAA Panel of Arbitrators
Michigan Assessors Association (affiliate member)

AREAS OF PRACTICE: General municipal and governmental law
Governmental organization
Planning, zoning and land use for private and public clients
Government contracts, negotiation and financing
Eminent domain litigation for private and public clients
Property tax appeals and litigation for private and public clients
General business, real estate and construction disputes
Private arbitrator; private mediator; private facilitator and fact finder

**REPRESENTATIVE
CLIENTS:**

City of Swartz Creek; Village of Holly; Village of Empire; Forest, Gaines and Richfield Townships (Genesee Co.); Empire, Glen Arbor, and Cleveland Townships (Leelanau Co.); Benzonia, Crystal Lake, Gilmore, Joyfield, Lake, Platte and Weldon Townships (Benzie Co.); Benzie County; Benzie County Drain Commissioner; Benzie County Parks and Recreation Commission; Pleasanton Township (Manistee County); Leelanau County Economic Development Corporation; City of Flint; City of Flint Economic Development Corporation; City of Flint Brownfield Redevelopment Authority; Flint Tax Increment Finance Authority; City of Flint Department of Community and Economic Development; Village of Holly Downtown Development Authority; City of Flint Emergency Financial Manager; Michigan Municipal League Legal Defense Fund; Flint Area Enterprise Community, Incorporated; numerous private sector property tax clients.

**REPRESENTATIVE
ARBITRATION AND
MEDIATION
ASSIGNMENTS:**

Genesee County Circuit Court Case Evaluation Panel (1990 to 2003); Conflict Resolution Center, Traverse City (2001 to present); Arbitrator on numerous commercial, real estate and construction claims (1985 to present); Appointed to national panel to mediate and arbitrate claims in settlement of class action lawsuit against Prudential Life Insurance Company (1998 - 1999); Private mediator on numerous commercial, real estate, zoning, land use and municipal claims; General Civil Mediator Lists 6th, 7th, 13th, 19th and 35th circuits.

POSITIONS HELD:

City Attorney, City of Flint (1977 through 1982)
City Attorney, City of Swartz Creek (1988 to present)
Village Attorney, Village of Holly (1988 to present)
Township Attorney, Richfield Township (1986 to present)
Township Attorney, Gaines Township (2002 to present)
Township Attorney, Weldon Township (2006 to present)
General Counsel: Empire Township, Glen Arbor Township, Village of Empire, Cleveland Township, Lake Township, Benzonia Township, Pleasanton Township, Benzie County
City Attorney, City of Flushing (1993 - 1994; 1995 - 1999)
Empire Township Planning Commission Member (2003 to present)
Empire Township Planning Commission Chairperson (2004 to present)

ORGANIZATIONS:

Board of Regents, Baker College-Flint (1981 - 2006)
Chairperson (1993 - 1998)
Board of Trustees, Baker College System (1993 - 2006)
Flint Area Chamber of Commerce
Board of Directors (1993 - 2006)
Chairperson (2000 - 2002)
Board of Directors, Economic Development Corporation of Leelanau County 1999-2006)

PRESENTATIONS:

Presentation of educational programs for the Michigan Municipal League, Michigan Townships Association, Baker College Institute for Local Government Education and other entities on a variety of subjects, including: Board Governance, Open Meetings Act, Freedom of

Information Act, planning and zoning issues and processes, special assessments, property tax issues, alternative dispute resolution processes, especially mediation and arbitration.
Presentation on issues in mediating disputes involving public bodies, ICLE ANDRI conference, March, 2007

ARTICLES:

Regular contributor of articles on old or quaint laws affecting public bodies in quarterly publication of the Public Corporation Law Section of the Michigan State Bar Association.

A Tale of Two Cities, published in *Municipal Legal Briefs* published by the Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys. (An analysis of *City of Mt. Pleasant vs. State Tax Commission*, 474 Mich 1001).

Mediation and the Public Client published in the Public Corporation Law Section Quarterly.

Why Local Government Needs to Mediate, published in the June, 2010 edition of the Michigan State Bar Journal.

The Case for Mediation, published in the November, 2011 Michigan Townships Association magazine.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Regular contributor to the State Bar Association Public Corporation Law Section's Quarterly Newsletter.

AWARDS:

Recipient of Distinguished Municipal Attorney Award from the Michigan Association of Municipal Attorneys