

“Devoted to U.S.-Korea Law Practice since 1984”



Ryul Kim (Attorney. Mediator. Arbitrator)

Licensed in California only

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Ryul has served as a general civil practitioner, corporate in-house counsel, and expert witness since 1984. From 1995 through 2000, he served as a full-time General Counsel of a high-tech company, with multiple operations in the U.S. and Korea. As a U.S. representative of a major international law firm in Korea, Ryul was responsible for managing various US-Korea bi-country legal matters. With his unique Korean language ability, and cultural sensitivity, he was effectively able to handle the cases with Korean elements, including Korean parties, Korean legal issues, or business practice, which could significantly affect the outcome of a case.

Furthermore, Ryul is a strong advocate for the advancement of Korean-Americans in the legal profession as demonstrated by his service as the founding president of the Orange County Korean American Bar Association in 2005. Furthermore, he founded and served as Executive Co-Chair/Special Faculty of the Korea Law Center at the University of California, Irvine, School of Law, where he created and implemented the fellowship program for visiting Korean judges, prosecutors, and attorneys in 2009. As a founder of US-Korea Law Foundation, he hosted the annual U.S.-Korea Law Day, which was held at KIA corporate headquarters in Irvine since 2011. He has also spoken and written on a wide variety of legal topics with U.S.-Korea cross-border implications. In 2013, he has written and published an English textbook “Laws of Korea”, with the contribution of seven Korean public prosecutors, to provide comprehensive knowledge on Korean law to common law jurists in the U.S.

Areas of Practice

- U.S.- Korea law practice
- Consultancy for US-Korea litigation management
- Alternative Dispute Resolution (“ADR”): Arbitration, mediation, and collaborative solutions for US-Korea disputes
- Expert witness referral services for US-Korea legal or business matters

Professional Experience (Past/Present)

- Private Practice in Orange County, California devoted to US-Korea law practice since 1984
- Orange County Human Relations Council, Senior Mediator (2010-present)

- California Superior Court, Orange County and San Diego County, Mediator (2012-2020)
- The State Bar of California Mandatory Fee Arbitration, Arbitrator; Los Angeles County Bar Association, Attorney-Client Mediation and Arbitration, Arbitrator and Mediator (2011-present)
- Korean Commercial Arbitration Board, Arbitrator (2015-present)
- ADR Services, Inc., Private Mediator and Arbitrator (2010-2022)

Teaching Experience (Past/Present)

- Trinity Law School, Adjunct Professor(2012-present):
- "Alternative dispute Resolution"; "Alternative dispute Resolution" in the Workplace; "Foundational Skills for Christian ADR"; "Mediation"; and "Court-connected Mediation Clinic"
- "Visiting Scholar Program for Korean Jurists"
- Azusa Pacific University, Adjunct Professor: "Negotiating Entrepreneurial Issues" course(2018-2020)
- University of California, Irvine, School of Law, Special Academic Faculty for "Survey of the U.S. and Korean Law and Legal System" and "Jurist-in-Residence" (2009-2011)
- University of California, Irvine, School of Law, Founder/Executive Co-Chair for "Korea Law Center (2009-2011)

Education

- Juris Doctorate Degree, 1983: Western State University, College of Law, Fullerton, California (Selected for Jessup International Moot Court)
- Bachelor of Arts in Economics, 1980: University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)
- Yonsei University, Civil Engineering Department, 1974: Seoul, Korea (Incomplete)

Professional Accomplishments/Training

- Admitted in the California State Bar, 1984
- Admitted in U.S. Court of International Trade, 1985
- Orange County Bar Association College of Trial Advocacy (Civil), 1990
- National Litigation Academy (2003 and 2006)
- Advanced Mediation Training (2009 and 2012)
- Peacemaker Ministry Training (2013)
- Juvenile Dependency Mediator (Approved by the Judicial Council of California, 2020)
- Online, Distance and Blended Teaching Certificate(Instructional Modality Certification, Azusa Pacific University, 2020)

Awards

- The State Bar of California Board of Governors Award for Pro Bono Services (1989)
- The Wiley Manuel Award Recipient for Pro Bono Services (1993)
- Alliance Defense Fund for Pro Bono Services (Honor Guard) (2005)
- OC Human Relation Award of Appreciation for Pro Bono Mediation Services (2012-2018)
- The 9th Overseas Special Proficiency Test of Korean History by the National Institute of Korean History (2018)

Professional Associations and Memberships (Former/Present)

- Orange County Korean American Bar Association, Inaugural President (2005-2006); Honorary Director and Advisor (2006-present); 2018 US-Korea Law Day at KIA, Coordinator(2017-Present)
- U.S.-Korea Law Foundation, Chair (2011-2018)
- Christian Legal Society(2019-Present)
- California State Bar Association Section Executive Committee Member (2001-2002)
- Korean American Bar Association of Southern California (Ethics Committee Chair and Liaison Officer for Orange County (1988-1994)
- Orange County Bar Association, Intellectual Property Section, International Law Section (1984-1989)
- Orange County Trial Lawyers Association (1987)
- Orange County Amicus Publico (1986)
- Los Angeles County Bar Association, Intellectual Property/Entertainment Section (1990)
- American Trial Lawyers Association (1989)

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- California Trial Lawyers Association (1989)
- American Bar Association (1984-1988)
- Transportation Lawyers Association (1996)
- Maritime Law Association of the United States (1995)

Languages

- English and Korean
- Studied Chinese (Mandarin) and German

Publications

- Author: *Laws of Korea*, an 850-page legal textbook on Korean law. The book is in English, with three previous editions (2013, 2015 and 2016). It is published in print and available online at Amazon.com [Laws of Korea\(2015\)](#)
- Author/Editor in-Chief: *U.S.-Korea Law Journal* (2012, 2013, 2004) [US-Korea Law Journal](#)
- Author: "Enforcement of Foreign Judgment in Korea," published by the California State Bar Association (2000)
- Editor/Translator: "Enforcement of U.S. Arbitral Awards in Korea," authored by Judge Jang Yong-Beum and published in the *U.S.-Korea Law Journal* (2012)
- Author: "The Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards in Korea: With Focus on the U.S. Matters," originally authored by Judge Jang Yong-Beum in 2012 and published in *Pepperdine Dispute Resolution Law Journal* (2015)
- "U.S. Law Story", 286 pp in Korean (1996)
- Author: "ADR -- Alternative Dispute Resolution", a pamphlet(2013; "What Should I Know Before I Rent(Korean)", a California State Bar pamphlet (1991)"; "The Korean Law Update", a weekly newsletter(1996-1997); "Commercial Leasing", a pamphlet(1991); "Debtor's Rights: Exemptions from Enforcement of Judgment", a pamphlet(1991); "The Law & Faith"; "Jus Gentium", a newsletter(1994);; and "Estate Planning for Today and Tomorrow", a 70-page booklet (2004)
- A Weekly Columnist for *U.S. Today*, KGBC (Korean Gospel Broadcasting) (October 2011-October 2012)
- "It's OK to Say Merry Christmas", a letter to editor, *Irvine World News* (2006)

Speech

- "The U.S.-Korea Arbitration" (2020, Korea Commercial Arbitration Board and Handong International Law School)
- "ADR in the U.S." (2019, Orange County Korean American Bar Association and Korea Commercial Arbitration Board)
- "Drinking Cultures: Korean Business Practice and You"(2017, Asian-Pacif American Bar Association in Inland)
- "Legal Development Affecting the Conduct of U.S.-Korea Business Transactions"(2016, Orange County Bar Association)
- "Confucianism and Christianity: St. Thomas More" (2015, Christian Legal Society)
- "Mediation for Intellectual Properties Dispute Resolution"(2015, Korea Trade Promotion Agency)
- "Is "Mediation in Korean Communities Emerging?" (2015, Pepperdine Law School)
- "Clergy Communications and Counseling" (2014, Pacific Justice Institute)
- "The U.S.-Korea Inheritance Issues" (2014, U.S. Korea Law Foundation)
- "Small Claims Court Procedure for Mediators" (2014, Orange County Community Service)
- "Think Globally, Practice Locally"(2013, San Diego Korean American Bar Association)
- "Korean Law Practice in the U.S."(2012, Korea Legislature and Research Institute)
- "Alternative Dispute Resolution in the U.S."(2012, Ministry of Justice, Korea)
- "How Much Does Litigation Cost You?"(2012, Trinity Law School)
- "History of the Korean Constitution"(2011, UC Irvine Law School)
- "Working with Korean Clients: The Nuances to Watch"(2011, Orange County Korean American Bar Association)
- "U.S. Judges v. Korean Judges"(2010, International Association of Women Judges)
- "International Injustice and Good News"(1997, California State Bar Association)
- "International Law Practice"(1997, Chapman Law School and Loyola Law School)