

COOPER & WALINSKI

A Legal Professional Association

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To Whom It May Concern:

In December of 2004, Judge Richard Knepper served as a mediator in a lawsuit involving the death of an elderly patient in a nursing home. I represented one of two defendants in the case. The case involved complex factual and legal issues. Both causation and damages were vigorously contested by the parties. Because it involved a wrongful death, the case also involved heightened emotional issues.

After a full day of mediation before Judge Knepper, the case against my client settled. The case settled with the remaining co-defendant a few days later. Judge Knepper's experience as a lawyer and judge was invaluable in resolving this case. He had an excellent grasp of the factual, legal and personal issues. His patience and understanding of the emotional issues was perhaps the key to the resolution of the case.

Although I had appeared before Judge Knepper when he served as a trial and an appellate judge, this was my first experience before him as a mediator. I plan on using him as a mediator in future cases and I recommend him without reservation.

Respectfully,

Gerald R. Kowalski

GRK/bs