

Andrew Fontanella, Esquire (he/him) recently joined the ADR Division of the Court of Special Appeals. He has jumped right in with his colleagues screening all manner of cases on appeal for their appropriateness for mediation, and scheduling and conducting mediations. In his former position with the District Court of Maryland, he was the first Regional ADR Programs Manager for the Eastern Shore. In that role, he developed Pre-trial and Day of Trial Programs mediation programs in 7 of the 9 counties. Those programs required building relationships with judges and court staff, as well as leveraging the talent of the local Community Mediation Centers as the primary mediation service providers for such programs.

Andrew has trained in multiple ADR processes including mediation in the Facilitative, Transformative and Inclusive frameworks; Conflict Coaching, Community Conferencing, Circle process, and Collaborative Practice. Before coming to work for the Judiciary, he spent 30+ years in private practice handling all types of cases, including state, federal and administrative matters in Maryland and New Jersey.