

Jay Knight loves his wonderful family of Sophia, Karen, Allie, Sami, and Kenzie, who give meaning to all he does and reminds him of his real place in the world. While contemplating the love and his purpose, Jay is the Director of the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Division in the Maryland Court of Special Appeals. With the help of his staff, Jay manages the operations of the ADR Division while also conducting appellate mediations. Prior to being promoted to Director, Jay was a Staff Attorney-Mediator at the ADR Division, having mediated over 250 civil appellate cases, including contract, tort, estate, guardianship, foreclosure, real property, and domestic disputes and conflicts. Jay came to the Court from private practice where he specialized in Family Law mediations for English and Spanish-speaking clients and counseled clients on securities regulatory matters. Prior to coming to the Court, and since 1998 while practicing as an attorney, Jay had been a mediator for various Circuit Courts, specializing in child access and domestic/financial property cases.

Before entering private practice in 2011, Jay altered industry oversight practice for certified financial planners when he joined the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. (CFP Board) in bringing their headquarters from Colorado to D.C., and managing the Office of Professional Review as Director until being promoted to Government Affairs Counsel, as its lobbyist in D.C. As Special Counsel for Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) before CFP Board, Jay assisted the enforcement and auditing departments within FINRA regulating broker-dealers. As an Assistant Director for the Securities Bureau of D.C.'s Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking before FINRA, Jay established the Division of Examinations to enforce D.C.'s securities laws, regulations, and rules, and conduct investigations and inspections of broker-dealers, investment advisers, and their employees. Jay started his legal career as a staff attorney at the Securities Division in the Office of the Attorney General for Maryland.

Jay received his B.A. in English from the SUNY College of Fredonia in 1992 where he was President of the Student Government Association and Vice President of the Black Student Union. Later, he earned a J.D. from the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law in 1996 where he was also President of the Student Bar Association.