

**JEFFREY G. BENZ**

12021 Wilshire Blvd., Ste. 256  
Los Angeles, CA 90025  
+1 (310) 570-2774 (mobile)  
+1 (310) 975-1214 (facsimile)  
[jeffreybenz@gmail.com](mailto:jeffreybenz@gmail.com)

**CURRICULUM VITAE**

**WORK EXPERIENCE:**

**JAMS, Inc.**, Los Angeles, 2016-Present

*Arbitrator, Mediator and Special Master*

At world's leading private provider of dispute resolution services in cases spanning a very wide variety of commercial, sports, entertainment, international, employment, and technology disputes (member of Sports, Entertainment, Employment, International, and General Arbitration panels). Developed e-sports dispute resolution protocol and program, as well as SafeSport arbitration program.

**4 New Square Barristers**, Lincoln's Inn, London, 2013-Present

*Door Tenant*

Serves as mediator, arbitrator, factfinder, investigator and advisor on various legal disputes, sports agreements and transactions, corporate governance, entertainment, and technology, at one of the leading barristers sets in the UK.

**Versus Advocates, APC**, Los Angeles, 2011-Present

*Managing Partner, Attorney, Mediator, and Arbitrator*

Three partner firm with general commercial practice, covering transactions and litigation in the sports, technology, and entertainment, industries, and providing general counsel services to various entities. Work includes investigations, negotiating multisport games host city agreements, training center operating agreements, sponsorship and licensing agreements, copyright and trademark, investment documents, and various other matters. Representative clients include World Beach Games Organizing Committee 2019, operator of former US Olympic Training Center in San Diego, and various sports governing bodies, sponsors, and technology companies looking to move into sports.

**GoldenSpear, LLC**, San Francisco, Beijing, Shanghai & Hong Kong, 2009-10

*Chief Operating Officer, General Counsel, and Secretary*

Senior legal and operational executive at startup venture in mobile telecomm, based in China. Responsible for all business/legal affairs, governance, regulatory and operational matters, including regulatory matters affecting the technology, and remit included investment raising, addressing software and telecommunications legal matters, entertainment/sports content, securing patent, trademark, and copyright rights, and sourcing, negotiating for and papering China joint ventures. Managed local employees.

**AVP, Inc./AVP Pro Beach Volleyball Tour, Inc.**, Los Angeles, 2008-09

*Chief Operating Officer, General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer, and Secretary*

Senior executive responsible for legal and finance, business affairs, public company compliance and governance, investment, and operations in leading lifestyle and sports/entertainment company related to the culture of the beach. Responsible for all intellectual property and relations with athletes. Negotiated to acquire and operate Australia pro beach volleyball tour. Managed employees worldwide.

**A2 Holdings, LLC**, Los Angeles, 2006-08

*Vice President of Business and Legal Affairs, and Secretary*

Senior executive at professional boxing and television startup with prominent CEO and board members. Managed all corporate governance, legal/business affairs, investment, intellectual property, and television issues. Became a licensed boxing promoter in California.

**United States Olympic Committee**, Colorado Springs, 2001-06

*General Counsel, Managing Director of Legal and Government Affairs, Chief Ethics Officer, and Secretary*

Senior executive and chief lawyer at large National Olympic Committee, responsible for broad range of activity, including commercial transactions/litigation, real estate, licensing, trademarks, corporate governance, employment and human resources, risk management, sponsorships, event agreements, corporate bylaws, regulatory and government matters, investigations, regulation of member organizations (NGBs), etc. Oversaw a legal department budget of over USD\$1.5M, with legal department staff of approximately 15 (but also managed human resources and international relations functions, adding an additional approximately 15 people to oversight and doubling budget under management). Reported directly to CEO and Board of Directors. Responsible for significant and groundbreaking governance reform, reducing USOC Board from 123 to 11 individuals; managed all cases before the Court of Arbitration for Sport. Responsible for anti-doping matters, including setting up USADA, and appearing twice before IOC Executive Board to report on state of the US anti-doping system from 1985 to 2000. Managed various internal cross-functional teams.

**Coudert Brothers**, San Francisco, 1996-2001

*Attorney*

Co-chair and founder of Worldwide Sports Practice Group and member of Litigation and Arbitration practice groups (practiced antitrust & competition law, commercial litigation and arbitration, patent and trademark litigation, sports transactions and disputes) in the world's preeminent international law firm. Clients represented from the United States, Japan, France, Malaysia, and elsewhere.

**Bouhey, Garvie & Bushner**, San Francisco & Honolulu, 1993-96

*Attorney*

At firm that later merged with Wilson, Elser, *et al.*, with practice focused on insurance coverage and defense, general liability, commercial litigation, admiralty, shipping, and maritime law, and sports law.

**Lloyd's of London**, London, 1992

*Legal Intern*

Lloyd's Claims Office

## **EDUCATION/PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS/ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS:**

### ***Education:***

2006 **University of Michigan Ross School of Business**, MBA, General Management.

1993 **University of Texas School of Law**, JD (Board of Editors, *The Review of Litigation*; Director, Board of Advocates).

1992 **Queen Mary University of London**, Certificate in Marine Insurance and EU law.

1990 **University of Michigan**, AB, Political Science.

**Bar admissions:** States of California, Colorado, Hawaii, and New York; member of numerous United States federal district and appellate court bars.

**Teaching:**

2012-Present, Adjunct Professor, *Pepperdine University Law School, Straus Institute* (top-rated program in dispute resolution in the US for the past 12 years) (Malibu, CA) (courses include International Sports Law, Sports Dispute Resolution, and Ethics in International Commercial Arbitration, and organizer of conferences on Olympic-related dispute resolution and doping).

2014-Present, Adjunct Professor, *Instituto Superior De Recho y Economia* (ISDE) (Madrid and Barcelona) (courses on Asian Sports Law, Racism in Football, and Alternative Dispute Resolution in Business).

**RECOGNITIONS:**

Fellow, *Chartered Institute of Arbitrators*

Fellow, *College of Commercial Arbitrators*

Accredited Mediator, *Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution*

Certified Electronic Discovery Specialist, *Association of Certified E-Discovery Specialists*

Member, *Academy of Court Appointed Masters*

Recognized, *Who's Who Legal, Entertainment and Sports Law, Worldwide*, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017; Recognized, *Who's Who Legal, UK Bar* 2017, Leading Barristers

**MEMBERSHIPS:**

*American Bar Association* (Forum on Entertainment and Sports, Business Law Section (Vice Chair, Business Litigation Committee, ADR Subcommittee), Dispute Resolution Section, Health Law Section, International Law Section, Litigation Section).

*Sports Lawyers Association* (Board of Directors, International Chair and Annual Conference Co-Chair)

*National Sports Law Institute* (Board of Directors)

*Institute of Sports Law and Ethics* (Board of Directors)

Panel of Arbitrators and Mediators, *Court of Arbitration for Sport* (arbitrator since 2000; mediator since 2013), *Sport Resolutions UK*, and *American Arbitration Association* sports panel.

Disciplinary Tribunal, *Rugby Football Union*

Advisory Board, *www.LawInSport.com*

Vice President, North American Branch, *Chartered Institute of Arbitrators*

Panel of arbitrators of *London Court of International Arbitration* (LCIA) (London), *International Chamber of Commerce* (ICC) (Paris), *Hong Kong International Arbitration Center* (HKIAC) (Hong Kong), *China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission* (CIETAC) (Beijing), *Beijing Arbitration Commission* (BAC) (Beijing), *Republic of China Arbitration Association* (Taipei), *Bucharest International Arbitration Centre* (Bucharest), *American Arbitration Association International Centre for Dispute Resolution* (ICDR) (New York), and *JAMS* (Los Angeles).

**OTHER:**

Author or co-author of leading articles on ADR, international and domestic commercial and sports arbitration and mediation, doping, managing costs in ADR; frequent trainer and lecturer on arbitration, general mediation and sports topics around the world. In demand speaker on sports law issues at conferences worldwide annually. Guest lecturer at numerous law schools.

*Sporting Background:*

- Former elite level figure skating athlete on ***US Figure Skating Team***.
- Athletes' Advisory Council Vice Chair and member of Board of Directors and Executive Committee, ***United States Olympic Committee***, 1997-2000.
- Athlete's Advisory Committee Chair and Board member and Executive Committee member, ***US Figure Skating*** (USOC recognized NGB), 1988-1996.
- Alternate Athlete Board Member, ***Salt Lake Organizing Committee***, 1999-2001.

Member, ***Mitchell Special Bid Oversight Commission***, appointed by the USOC to blue ribbon investigatory panel to review the Salt Lake City Olympic Winter Games bid process and offer recommendations for reform, which were adopted by the USOC, 1998-1999.

Law Development Arbitration Law Trainer, ***European Bank for Reconstruction and Development*** (2014-15 Moldova; 2016 Jordan; greater Middle East (project pending)).

Worked at 6 ***Olympic Games*** (USOC outside counsel, USOC inside counsel, other sport organization counsel), 2 ***Asian Beach Games*** (CAS Ad Hoc Divisions), and 1 ***Asian Winter Games*** (CAS Ad Hoc Division); multiple ***SportAccord*** attendee.