

Power Mediators

Settle that case!

Our inaugural list of the top 32 mediation specialists for entertainment disputes



Jeffrey Krivis,

First Mediation Corp.,
Judicate West

Encino, Calif.

Rate: \$6,500/day

School: Southwestern University Law School, 1980

Jeffrey Krivis didn't set out to be an entertainment mediator, but his years of experience with his own firm, First Mediation, and other ADR companies have made him a go-to guy for many industry lawyers. "I've been one of the only attorney mediators since the beginning of the advent of mediation," he says. "The clients had a good experience because of the process rather than the substantive expertise," he says. "Over the years, I've gained the substantive expertise because the lawyers have educated me. But these cases also involve relationships, and I'm cognizant to let the clients leave feeling good about their experience with their lawyers." Krivis has even written a book about his approach, "Improvisational Negotiation: A Mediator's Stories of Conflict About Love, Money, Anger — and the Strategies That Resolved Them," which recently won book of the year honors from the CPR Institute for Dispute Resolution.

Buzz: "Part of the reason entertainment lawyers turn to Jeff is because he's built up a lot of credibility and goodwill in the community. People have good experiences working with him. I think he is an extremely masterful mediator. He has different ways to approach mediation, and he will calibrate them depending on the lawyers and the clients. He's quite versatile. You could call him the Sandy Koufax of mediators."

— Elliot Brown
Irell & Manella, Los Angeles