

## RESUME

07/06

John C. Wheeler

### Biographical and Academic

Born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on September 16, 1933 to Opal Marie Southward and Jack Cecil Wheeler.

Completed elementary and secondary education in Oklahoma City. Began college work at Central State University at Edmond, Oklahoma and at Oklahoma City University. During this time, was member of Platoon Leaders Course, USMC. After 1953 marriage, joined U.S. Army Reserve, was on active duty in 1954 and 1955 with assignments at Ft. Bliss, Texas and Army Signal School in Ft. Gordon, Georgia. Was retained as an instructor at Army Signal School teaching teletypewriter and tape relay for the balance of tour of duty.

Married Mary Kay Simpson of Hagerman and Roswell, New Mexico shortly before active duty in Army.

Four children: Katherine, now a wife and Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, David, now a husband, father, Civil Engineer and Innkeeper; Sally, a mom and Legal Assistant; and John Kenneth, an MBA and IRS Tax Specialist.

Three grandchildren: Robyn, Jeremy and Jacob. One great-grandchild: Ian.

Obtained a BBA degree from University of New Mexico in 1961 with a concentration in accounting and a minor in history. The latter included significant exposure to anthropology, archaeology, early western civilization and psychology.

From 1963 until 1967, employed as Executive Secretary and General Manager of Albuquerque Association of Credit Management, at that time the New Mexico affiliate of the National Association of Credit Management.

Completed college work at UNM in 1967 with a Juris Doctorate from the college of Law. Licensed to practice law in all courts of N.M. that same year. Passed the N.M. Bar that same year.

Lived and worked exclusively in Albuquerque from 1956 until 1973, when a weekend residence was purchased in Elephant Butte, N.M. A permanent home was later built in Truth or Consequences.

Health: excellent.

## Activities and Organizations

Have been in private practice in New Mexico since licensure except for 1970-71, when employed by the Office of Chief Counsel, Internal Revenue Service, at St. Louis, Missouri as a Trial Attorney and Regional Counsel Liason with IRS Intelligence.

From 1977 to 1988, was principal shareholder and managing director of medium size law corporation in Albuquerque, known over most of its history as Wheeler, McElwee & Sprague, P.C.

With other lawyers in Albuquerque, was a founding director of the Christian Conciliation Service of New Mexico, Inc., an organization formed to resolve legal disputes between Christians using peacemaking principles found in the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament.

Ordained Permanent Deacon for the Archdiocese of Santa Fe in 1981 following a 3 year formation program with full seminary curriculum.

In 1984, completed a 40 hour course in mediation skills given by Albuquerque Mediation Center.

Thereafter, was founder, then President of New Mexico Mediation Association, Inc. for one term. Membership in the latter group consisted of mental health professionals and lawyers who sought amicable resolution of disputes through neutral intermediaries using communication skills rather than the adversarial method.

Past Chair of the State Bar Committee on Alternative Methods of Dispute Resolution (ADR).

Presently, owner and sole shareholder of Elderlaw Associate, P.A., a professional corporation which primarily limits its practice to the law pertaining to the elderly, including wills, living trusts, probate, guardianship, conservatorships, related real estate matters, advance directives and life planning services for senior citizens. This work includes planning for institutional care medicaid and often includes divorce mediation work for elderly clients. At the present time, am guardian, conservator or designated agent under powers of attorney for approximately 20 individuals. At any one time, agency status under powers of attorney is dormant until needed.

Member: Elderlaw section of the State Bar, Real Property, Probate and Trust Sections of the State Bar, National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys, National Association of Geriatric Care Managers; Post 44 of the American Legion, Vice Chair of Sierra Joint Office on Aging.

Incorporator and co-founder of Call to Action New Mexico Inc. This is an affiliate of a national 25,000 member Roman Catholic Reform Organization.

Personal preferences: walking, exploring remote mountain areas, people with open minds.