

**Chula Rupasinha**

CEDR Accreditation:	1999
CEDR Training Faculty:	2001
CEDR Panel Admission:	2013
Languages:	English
Location:	United Kingdom

"Chula brought a very high level of professionalism to the mediation and throughout displayed skills that enabled the parties to reach a satisfactory resolution."

Client Feedback

Overview

Chula Rupasinha has had a long association with CEDR having been accredited as a mediator in 1999 as part of his work as an expert crisis negotiator. His work as a negotiator related to criminal sieges and international terrorism and was undertaken for various agencies; he continues to train in this field. On behalf of the Home Office he acquired considerable experience working with the military and perhaps his most notable role was the initiation and development of the U.K. military's security plans for the London Olympic Games in 2012.

Chula has been a member of CEDR's Training Faculty since 2001 and is now also working as mediator for both consumer and commercial disputes.

Professional Background

Chula is a former senior crisis negotiator for the London Metropolitan Police serving for 32 years as a police officer retiring at the rank of Superintendent: whilst serving he fulfilled a diverse range of roles ranging from the leadership of 'first response' teams to policy development. For a period he was responsible for the policing of demonstrations in central London and other duties included working to diffuse a range of volatile situations such as sieges and suicide attempts. As a manager he developed and implemented specific aspects of counter-terrorism policy and contingency planning, led a significant change management project and adjudicated on staff discipline boards.

Chula now acts as a crisis negotiation consultant at senior government level.

Expertise

- Aviation
- Commercial Contracts
- Employment & Workplace
- Franchising
- Professional negligence
- Property

Dispute Experience

(Non-Neutral work in italics)

Aviation

- Settled a dispute concerning an assessment that a pilot was no longer competent [to fly specific operations].
- Extensive aviation background as CAA instructor and with specific experience working with the Ministry of Defence to develop airspace security for London which involved negotiations with a multitude of vested and competing interests.

Commercial Contracts

- Disagreements between contractors vying for funds under a government let contract and claims arising from the supply of good and services.
- Compensation claims arising from the supply of faulty equipment necessitating substantial reinstatement of interior works in a new-build house and in connection with construction project not built to the agreed specification.
- Family-business disputes have involved allegations of impropriety including improper removal of a director and theft of partnership funds.

Employment & Workplace

- **Linked to 'whistle blowing', an allegation of constructive dismissal within the charity sector.**
- Disputes within teams of surgeons arising from irreconcilable differences of clinical approach and refusals to work together.
- **A breach of the Disability Discrimination Act and a linked allegation of discrimination by virtue of the complainant's sexual orientation had caused the employee to be placed 'long-term sick'. The parties met at mediation and a**

solution agreed acceptable to the Police Force and employee who, immediately after the mediation, returned to work.

- **Alleged race discrimination within a police selection process.**
- **A claim of breach of duty made by a worker against his own trade union linked to a race discrimination case submitted to an Employment Tribunal.**
- **A breach of a contract of employment and a claim of unfair dismissal case (charity sector).**
- **A dispute between a supervising pilots as to the others competence to fly certain tasks.**

Franchising

- **Alleged failure to comply with terms of the agreement and non-payment for goods supplied.**
- **False representations made to induce a franchisee to enter into an agreement.**
- **Failures to fulfil the franchisor's obligations and breaches of health and safety legislation.**

Professional negligence

- **A business alleged they were given negligent advice by their solicitors in respect of a winding-up-petition.**
- **A claim by a Finance House against chartered surveyors where it was alleged that the latter had negligently valued property causing substantial loss.**
- **A claim of breach of duty made by a worker against his own trade union linked to a race discrimination case submitted to an Employment Tribunal.**

Property

- **A claim before Mayor's and City Court made by a Finance House against chartered surveyors where it was alleged that the latter had negligently valued property causing substantial loss. A case with experienced negotiators and expert witnesses proposing alternative professional approaches was nevertheless settled against the odds.**
- **A breach of tenancy agreement (housing association).**

Neighbourhood: *A variety of pro bono cases on behalf of Mediation Hertfordshire.*

Personal Style

Chula has a solution-based approach and readily builds rapport with the parties who quickly feel safe to discuss their case with him: they willingly work with Chula to better understand the strengths and weaknesses of their case and trust him to faithfully represent their position to the 'other side'. Pre and post mediation contact is welcomed – he is committed to the ethos of mediation.

Feedback

- *"Thank you for your help in assisting in bringing this claim to a conclusion. I was not confident that it would settle, but you managed to assist the parties in bridging the gap."*
- *"If I was in the same situation again, I would be happy to use his services along with recommending him personally to any friends who found themselves in this type of situation."*
- *"Chula brought a very high level of professionalism to the mediation and throughout displayed skills that enabled the parties to reach a satisfactory resolution, in a situation where I had felt that this was an unlikely outcome."*
- *"He prepared for the mediation with a great deal of attention to detail and ensured that all parties were briefed in a way that ensured they knew what to expect from the event, but which left all options available."*
- *"The parties met together following this period of preparation and were led through a process with great skill. Chula's leadership of the process was always apparent and the respect this built in the parties was an important part of achieving recognition by the involved parties of the fundamental issues involved."*
- *"...the matter involved some quite technical evidence. Mr Rupasinha mastered that evidence in advance, clearly the result of careful preparation... [his] command of the evidence quickly gained him our confidence and that of our client."*
- *"... managed the process with quiet authority, listening carefully and focussing on the key issues and moving the parties effectively towards settlement."*

Training Roles and Experience

Chula has extensive experience training internationally with CEDR and other organisations in a variety of disciplines and in a range of environments. He continues to teach hostage negotiation for U.K. and other international police forces and also coaches aspiring commercial mediators. He is a senior instructor at The London Gliding Club teaching those training for PPLs and Glider Pilots' licenses; he is also a flying-instructor coach.

Professional Qualifications and Skills

- **BA (Hons) Economics.**
- **MA Human Resource Management.**

- **Member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development.**
- **Further Education Teaching Certificate.**
- **Senior gliding instructor and Civil Aviation Authority flying instructor.**
- **Civil Aviation Authority examiner for the award of Radio Telephony Licences.**

