



# **SPEAKER BIOS**

**Marion B. Adler**

Adler Law Practice, LLC

Marion B. Adler has been representing commercial policyholders in coverage disputes for more than 30 years. Her experience spans a wide variety of liability coverages, including General Liability, D&O, Errors & Omissions, Employment Practices Liability, Privacy/Cyber Coverage, Fidelity, and other types of business coverages. In addition to serving as litigation counsel, Marion advises businesses on coverage disputes when they arise, negotiates on their behalf with insurers when coverage is denied, and serves as policyholder counsel in mediations.



Marion writes and speaks often on the subject of commercial liability insurance coverage from the perspective of policyholders. In addition to her membership in the ACCC, her expertise as an insurance recovery attorney has been recognized by her designation as a SuperLawyer and Leading Lawyer in the area of insurance coverage.

**Leslie S. Ahari**  
Clyde & Co.

Leslie Ahari, partner at Clyde & Co LLP, represents US insurers in D&O, financial institution and professional liability matters in the US. Leslie has particular expertise with D&O claims involving bankrupt companies, and continues to represent insurers in both litigated and non-litigated coverage disputes. Her 30 years of experience, which have included litigation victories in state and federal courts across the country at both the trial and appellate level, has established her as a leader in D&O insurance law. Leslie is a fellow in the American College of Coverage Counsel.



**Robert Allen**

The Allen Law Group

Bob Allen founded the Dallas Texas based The Allen Law Group on March 1, 2013 after spending nearly 30 years with top firms, including Meckler Bulger Tilson Marick & Pearson, Baker & McKenzie and Vial, Hamilton, Koch & Knox.



Mr. Allen's practice is primarily focused in representing parties in trial court and appellate proceedings in insurance, commercial and tort litigation in Texas and other regions of the United States. This includes complex insurance coverage, bad faith, fraud, and reinsurance disputes. Mr. Allen also serves as a mediator, arbitrator, and neutral in insurance, reinsurance, commercial and tort disputes. His expert witness work includes attorneys' fees and insurance and bad faith issues.

Bob Allen is active in several Professional Associations, including the ABA and State Bar of Texas Insurance Law Section. He was a founder and a past Chair of the Dallas Bar Association's Tort & Insurance Practice Section. He is a Fellow in the American College of Coverage and Extra Contractual Counsel.

Bob is a graduate of Denison University and SMU Dedman School of Law.

**Lyndon F. Bittle**  
Carrington Coleman

Lyndon Bittle approaches every matter prepared for the long haul, but is always alert for the fact or legal theory that can achieve the client's ends as quickly and cost-effectively as possible. Over many years as a trial and appellate lawyer, and before that as a small business owner and manager, Lyndon has developed the keen eye and steady hand necessary to scale or circumvent seemingly insurmountable obstacles. Built on a foundation of business litigation in a host of industries and practice areas, his primary practice areas are currently insurance coverage, governmental representations, and appeals.



Policyholder clients have for more than 25 years counted on Lyndon's ability to handle their most complex coverage issues. In 2014, he was elected a Fellow in the American College of Coverage Counsel (ACCC). He was the 2012-13 chair of the ABA-TIPS Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee and remains active as a vice chair of that committee. He contributes Expert Commentary to the International Risk Management Institute (IRMI), and is a frequent speaker and writer on coverage issues. He is the lead editor (and author of four chapters) of a book published by the ABA in 2016 – REASONABLE EXPECTATIONS: INTERPRETING INSURANCE POLICIES IN COMMON LAW JURISDICTIONS. He has been named a Texas Super Lawyer in Insurance Coverage since 2012. He leads Carrington Coleman's insurance practice, which encompasses policy review and claims-handling assistance as well as litigation involving declaratory judgment, contract, and bad faith claims.

**Mary Borja**  
Wiley

Mary represents clients in complex litigation and arbitration involving professional liability, general liability, cyber, crime, and property insurance coverage. She provides advice and counsel on a wide range of insurance issues, including legal malpractice and other errors and omissions claims, director and officer liability, bankruptcy, crime, construction defect, environmental liability, blockchain and other technology, and bad faith.



Mary is a certified Legal Lean Sigma Institute (LLSI) White Belt, and uses the LLSI process and project management approach to deliver increased value to clients.

## **Mark Boyle**

Boyle, Leonard & Anderson, P.A.

Mark A. Boyle is the managing shareholder of Boyle, Leonard & Anderson, P.A., with offices in Fort Myers, FL, Tampa, FL, and Charleston SC. He began his legal career working as an Assistant County Attorney for Pasco County in New Port Richey, Florida. Mr. Boyle began his foray into the world of insurance when he became associate general counsel for Armor Insurance Company in Tampa, Florida. In 1996, he entered into private practice with Fink & Lane, P.A., which is now known as Boyle & Leonard, P.A.



Mr. Boyle's current areas of practice include civil litigation, with a concentration in first and third party insurance disputes, including extra-contractual and bad faith matters. Mr. Boyle represents corporate and individual policyholders in insurance and risk management counseling, claims presentation, and litigation. Mr. Boyle was the principal attorney in *U.S. Fire Ins. Co. v. J.S.U.B., Inc.*, 979 So. 2d 871 (Fla.2007), at trial and through all phases of appeal. *J.S.U.B.* is the seminal decision in Florida as to what constitutes a covered "occurrence" and "property damage" under commercial general liability policies in a construction defect setting. Recently, with the assistance of co-counsel, the firm prevailed in the matter of *Sebo v. American Home Assurance Co.*, 208 So. 3d 694 (Fla. 2016). The *Sebo* decision reaffirmed Florida's fealty to the Concurrent Cause Doctrine in first party insurance disputes and disallowed the insurers attempt to apply the highly restrictive Efficient Proximate Cause Doctrine.

Mr. Boyle is a 1993 graduate from Stetson College of Law, located in St. Petersburg, Florida. In 1990, Mr. Boyle received a Bachelor of Arts in History and a Bachelor of Science in Natural Sciences from the University of South Florida.

## Timothy W. Burns

Perkins Coie LLP

Timothy W. Burns is a partner at Perkins Coie LLP. He is the former co-chair of the Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee of the American Bar Association. Tim is favorably ranked in the 2006 (Illinois), 2007 (recommended in "Insurance" nationally), and 2008 to 2016 (Band 2 - nationally) editions of *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*. According to the publication, Tim "shines brightly in the sensitive and complex area of D&O [directors' and officers'] insurance," and corporate interviewees for the publication agreed that he "is probably the best counselor in the business for the procurement of this insurance . . . and is a real client magnet in this specialized field." According to one client quoted, "He is smart, diligent, innovative, resourceful and practical." Tim also is listed in *The International Who's Who of Insurance & Reinsurance Lawyers* and as one of the nation's top thirty policyholder-side insurance lawyers in the *Executive Counsel Shortlist*.



Tim has developed a nationally prominent D&O and fiduciary liability insurance practice. He advises clients on all aspects of D&O and fiduciary insurance, including counseling them with respect to the insurance aspects of securities and derivative litigation, fiduciary claims, government investigations, initial public offerings, spin-offs, mergers and acquisitions, and bankruptcies. Tim's practice also includes representing corporate policyholders in their disputes and litigation with their insurance carriers. He has represented major policyholders in insurance coverage litigation since 1992.

**Suzan Charlton**  
Covington & Burling LLP

Suzan Charlton has represented policyholders in insurance coverage disputes for more than 20 years. Clients trust her with coverage problems that demand creative solutions and zealous advocacy when litigation is called for. Her practice includes clients from a wide range of industries, including high-tech government contractors, oil and gas companies, energy utilities, industrial manufacturers, railroads, food and beverage companies, and hospitality businesses. Ms. Charlton has handled all aspects of complex insurance coverage litigation, from filing a complaint through trial and appeal, and has successfully negotiated numerous substantial insurance coverage settlements.



Ms. Charlton lectures extensively on insurance and other topics in CLE programs, industry conferences, and at universities, including past service as an adjunct professor at the University of Maryland, University College, and as a guest lecturer at the University of Connecticut School of Law. Ms. Charlton is a Fellow of the American College of Coverage Counsel and has been recognized as a SuperLawyer since 2013.

**Robert D. Chesler**  
Anderson Kill

Robert D. Chesler is a shareholder in Anderson Kill's Newark office. Bob represents policyholders in a broad variety of coverage claims against their insurers and advises companies with respect to their insurance programs. Bob is also a member of Anderson Kill's Cyber Insurance Recovery group.

A leading participant in the birth of modern insurance law in the early 1980s, Bob has earned the reputation as "*The Insurance Guru*" for exceptional insurance coverage knowledge, and has emerged as a leader in such new areas of insurance coverage as cyber-Insurance, D&O, IP, and privacy insurance.



Bob has served as the attorney of record in more than 30 reported insurance decisions, representing clients including General Electric, Ingersoll-Rand, Westinghouse, Schering, Chrysler, and Unilever, as well as many small businesses including gas stations and dry cleaners. He has received numerous professional accolades, including a top-tier ranking for Insurance Litigation: New Jersey in *Chambers USA: American's Leading Lawyers for Business*, which dubs him a "*dominant force in coverage disputes*" and cites a client who calls him "*a dean of the insurance Bar; one of the brightest in writing about and analyzing insurance coverage.*" He is also listed in *The Legal 500*, [The Best Lawyers in America](#), [Super Lawyers](#) and *Who's Who Legal* in the Insurance and Reinsurance section of the publication.

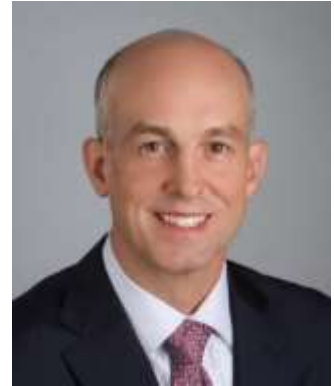
Bob is a relentless advocate for his clients in their efforts to obtain coverage from their insurance companies. He has strength in creatively analyzing complex insurance coverage disputes and rapidly driving towards resolution. He has spent his entire career obtaining settlements from insurance companies. He can speak "insurancese" as well as the insurers, and knows how to approach insurance companies, when to talk to them and when to litigate. His depth of experience enables him to distinguish a bad insurance claim from a good one, and understand and implement best strategies for obtaining money for his clients quickly and cost-effectively.

Bob taught history at the State University of New York at Purchase and Legal Methods at Harvard University. He currently teaches insurance law at Rutgers Law School. He holds a Ph.D. in history from Princeton University and maintains a scholarly interest in insurance. He is co-author of the seminal article *Patterns of Judicial Interpretation of Insurance Coverage for Hazardous Waste Site Liability*, 18 Rutgers L.J. 9 (1986), which has been cited by numerous courts, including seven state supreme courts and the Second Circuit, along with dozens of other articles on insurance issues. He is co-author of *Insurance Coverage for Intellectual Property and Cyber Insurance Claims*, published by Thomas West, and is former coeditor in chief of the *Environmental Claims Journal*. Bob is also co-editor of *Coverage*, the ABA Insurance Journal. He has chaired seminars on the new cyber-policies and food insurance issues for the ABA and NJSBA, and is currently Chair of the Insurance Sub-Committee of the American Intellectual Property Law Association.

**James Davis**  
Perkins Coie LLP

Jim Davis is a litigation partner in the Chicago and Seattle offices of Perkins Coie LLP specializing in insurance recovery.

Jim represents policyholders, from Fortune 50 corporations to family-owned businesses, in a wide range of insurance coverage disputes. Bringing over 20 years of experience to his practice, Jim advises clients on product liability, product recall, product contamination, first party property and business interruption losses, and additional insured and vendor endorsements. He has also litigated and counseled on historic coverage for environmental and asbestos claims, cyber liability, directors and officers liability, professional liability, employment practice liability, commercial crime and fidelity bonds, workers' compensation liability, domestic and UK insolvencies and UK solvent scheme issues.



Jim is a frequent author and presenter on insurance recovery topics. He was elected to membership in the American College of Coverage Counsel (ACCC) in 2014 and is active on the American Bar Association's Section of Litigation, Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee. He is recognized as an outstanding attorney by Chambers USA, Best Lawyers, Illinois Super Lawyers, and Who's Who Legal.

**Linda M. Dedman**  
Dedman Law, PLLC

Linda M. Dedman represents policyholders in coverage disputes, including pursuing extra-contractual claims against carriers and sometimes agents. Linda handles first and third-party commercial claims for clients in a variety of industries.

Linda earned her undergraduate and law degrees from Southern Methodist University/Dedman School of Law (B.A., *magna cum laude*, 1991; J.D., *cum laude*, 1998). She started her legal career as a litigator with Baker & McKenzie and quickly gravitated to the firm's insurance coverage group. Linda represented insurance carriers in complex commercial cases including a mix of trial and appellate work. She also served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas. In 2004 she founded her firm's predecessor firm and now operates Dedman Law, PLLC. Linda enjoys a 15-0 record in the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, but she is equally proud of the behind-the-scenes results she helps her clients secure without a trial or appeal.



**Leah N. Engelhardt**  
Chaffe McCall

Leah N. Engelhardt is a Partner and the Practice Area Coordinator for Chaffe McCall's Insurance Practice Group. She offers a personal commitment to each matter she handles, drawing upon over two decades of diverse experience in national insurance litigation and counseling practice for domestic and London Market insurers. Leah's practice also includes handling insurance defense matters involving a variety of claims.



Listed in The Best Lawyers in America® for Insurance Law and Insurance Litigation, Leah's practice includes experience on a wide range of first and third-party matters under various forms of primary, umbrella, excess, and OCCIP policies. She has a demonstrated history of developing innovative approaches to servicing clients in connection with many types of coverage matters.

Prior to joining Chaffe McCall, Leah served as the New Orleans office Managing Partner of a regional law firm where she routinely advised domestic and international insurer clients in connection with insurance coverage, defense, and complex litigation matters. She previously served for over 10 years with a mid-sized AmLaw 200 law firm as a member of the Insurance and Reinsurance Practice group. She is a Fellow of the American College of Coverage Counsel ("ACCC"), an invitation-only organization dedicated to improving the quality of the practice of insurance law.

Leah also maintains a strong commitment to the business and civic communities, including pro bono and charitable activities. She has worked with various non-profits in board leadership and fundraising positions, including the Children's Hospital, New Orleans Museum of Art, Louisiana Children's Museum, Preservation Resource Center of New Orleans, and the Audubon Institute.

She is a 2008 graduate of the New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute and previously served as President for the Junior League of New Orleans (2008-2009). The Young Leadership Council of New Orleans recognized Leah as a "2016 Role Model," where recipients are chosen as an inspiration to YLC's young professionals and the community at large. She was more recently named in the 2018 class of 'Women of the Year,' by New Orleans City Business. She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Bureau of Governmental Research and as Chairman of the Board of Citizens for 1 Greater New Orleans.

**Wendy Feng**  
Covington & Burling LLP

Wendy Feng represents policyholders in insurance coverage cases in state and federal courts. Ms. Feng has obtained insurance recovery for clients under a broad range of policy forms, including directors and officers liability, media special perils, environmental liability, professional liability, and commercial general liability policies. She has negotiated settlements with insurers involving complex insurance claims and valuations and has provided strategic advice to clients with novel policies and claims.



Ms. Feng is of counsel at Covington & Burling LLP, in the firm's San Francisco office. She received her A.B. from Harvard University and her J.D. from Harvard Law School, where she was Editor-in-Chief of the *Harvard Environmental Law Review*. She is ranked in the U.S. Chambers guide (Environment).

**Laura Foggan**  
Crowell Moring

**Laura Foggan** is a partner in Crowell & Moring's Washington, D.C. office, and chair of the firm's Insurance/Reinsurance Group. She has been described by *LawDragon 500 Magazine* as "one of the most successful advocates for the insurance industry to ever practice." Laura was recently recognized as a Global Elite Thought Leader for Insurance & Reinsurance by *Who's Who Legal* (2019), who praised her as a "dynamic and creative thinker" who has "very high standards and delivers superior work." She is a *Chambers* ranked Band 1 practitioner and included in the *Best Lawyers in America* directory, including being named a "Lawyer of the Year" for 2020. She is also consistently named one of Washington D.C.'s "Top 100 Lawyers" and "Top 50 Women Lawyers" and a "Super Lawyer" for Insurance Coverage by *Super Lawyers Magazine*.



**Admissions/Affiliations**

Admitted to practice: District of Columbia; U.S. Supreme Court; U.S. Courts of Appeals for the First, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, and District of Columbia Circuits; U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

## **William “Bill” H. Ford, III**

Collins | Ford LLP

William H. Ford, III is an AV rated partner in Collins | Ford LLP, a California law firm representing clients statewide in connection with insurance-related issues including the duty to defend, “Cumis” and “Bad Faith” matters in the state and federal courts. In addition, Mr. Ford and his firm regularly handle matters relating to lawyer professional negligence in connection with coverage.



Bill is a graduate of Santa Clara University ('66) B.A and the Loyola University School of Law ('71) J.D. where he was a member of the St. Thomas More Law Honor Society. Before law school, Bill served in Vietnam as an officer with the 101st Airborne Division.

He is a proud member of the California State Bar, the American Bar Association (Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section), the Roscoe Pound Institute, Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles, a founding member of California Insured Counsel (CIC) (an appellate group that regularly submits amicus briefs on important issues involving insurance coverage) and United Policyholders.

For many years Bill has been active in monitoring virtually every aspect of the development of California insurance law as an advocate, lecturer and commentator.

Bill is a Fellow of the American College of Coverage and Extracontractual Counsel (ACCEC), the preeminent national forum for lawyers with demonstrated scholarship, creativity, ethics and efficiency.

**Tyler Gerking**

Farella Braun + Martel LLP

Tyler Gerking helps policyholders maximize their insurance assets. He works with them and their insurance brokers in negotiating favorable terms to address their unique risks. He also pursues insurance claims, shepherding policyholders through the claim process, and if necessary, pursuing breach of contract and bad faith claims against insurers in litigation and arbitration settings. He works frequently with cyber, errors & omissions liability (E&O), directors & officers liability (D&O), general liability (CGL), employment practices liability (EPL), crime and property insurance. A specific focus of his is cyber insurance, where he regularly negotiates policy wording, drafts policies for his client's captive insurers and handles claims arising out of data breaches and other cyber events.



**G. David Godwin**

Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP

Dave Godwin represents companies in nationwide insurance coverage matters, as well as manufacturers in product liability and mass tort litigation. Over the course of nearly 30 years, he has served as lead trial counsel, national coordinating counsel and appellate advocate, assessing his clients' overall risk in high exposure, multijurisdictional disputes. Most of Dave's coverage actions include defense of claims for bad faith and extra-contractual liability. Dave has litigated a wide variety of coverage cases, including claims involving environmental and toxic torts, patent infringement, TCPA violations, investment fraud, D&O liability, first party property and construction claims.



**Stephen E. Goldman**  
Robinson+Cole

Steve Goldman is the managing partner of the firm and a nationally recognized trial lawyer with over 35 years of experience litigating and trying a diverse range of cases throughout the United States. He has tried cases and/or argued appeals in jurisdictions as diverse as Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana.



Steve has handled numerous high-impact cases arising from catastrophes such as Superstorm Sandy, Hurricanes Katrina and Andrew, the terrorist attacks of 9/11, and the anthrax scare in 2001. He has tried many high-exposure cases throughout the Northeast and in jurisdictions as diverse as Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, Louisiana, Texas, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Iowa.

Steve also has significant experience litigating class actions, especially those based on insurance coverage issues and insurer market conduct. In addition to the *Knowles* case, he has successfully argued class action related appeals in three federal circuits and in state appellate courts, and has successfully defeated class certification in many state and federal trial courts.

Steve is a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, and is a prior chair of the Connecticut State Committee for that organization. He is also a prolific speaker on insurance coverage, litigation, and ethics matters and has published numerous papers on these subjects. In addition, he contributes to the firm's **Property Insurance Coverage Insights** blog. Steve has been listed in **The Best Lawyers in America**® in the area of Insurance Law since 2006, and was named the *Best Lawyers*® “Lawyer of the Year” in Hartford in the area of Insurance Law for 2011, 2016, and 2018. He also has been selected to the Connecticut **Super Lawyers** list from 2006 to 2019 and the Top 50 Connecticut *Super Lawyers* for 2009.

**Michael Hamilton**  
Goldberg Segalla

Michael A. Hamilton handles sophisticated and high-exposure insurance coverage claims and commercial litigation. As a leader of the firm's Global Insurance Services Pennsylvania and Ohio teams, Mike focuses his practice on environmental, professional liability, construction defect, transportation, and business torts/advertising injury claims. He has been lead defense counsel in class action litigation, representing insurance companies, self-insurers, and transportation entities. He also has extensive appellate experience, arguing numerous appeals in state and federal courts across the country.



Mike has more than 25 years of experience handling insurance coverage claims and litigation on behalf of major insurers throughout the United States. He has an extensive background in environmental claims under commercial general liability policies and specialty environmental policies and has assisted clients with claims involving the application of the pollution exclusion, surface and groundwater contamination, ground pollution, and hydro-fracking.

Mike has also advised clients on a number of significant claims involving data privacy, intellectual property, false advertising, and business torts. His experience includes counseling carriers on policy form wording with respect to data breaches, cyber liability, and intellectual property infringement claims and was recently involved in a case that was closely watched by the insurance industry involving insurance coverage for a highly publicized data breach. Mike was also involved in two groundbreaking cases holding that claims for faulty workmanship in construction were not covered under CGL policies. He has represented insurance companies in bankruptcy court and has formulated strategies for carriers to best protect their rights when policyholders are in bankruptcy. He has also represented clients in commercial disputes and litigation, including matters relating to contractual indemnity, transportation accidents, and governmental immunity.

Mike currently serves as vice chair of former chairs for the Insurance and Reinsurance Committee of the International Association of Defense Counsel, an invitation-only professional association for corporate and defense lawyers around the world, after having recently served a two-year term as the committee's chair. He is also a frequent speaker and author on insurance litigation and emerging issues and was recently named a fellow of the American College of Coverage Counsel, an exclusive group of the top insurance attorneys in North America.

**Rick Hammond**  
HeplerBroom, LLC

Rick Hammond is a Partner with HeplerBroom, LLC, and he serves as national counsel on matters relating to property insurance coverage, fire and explosion cases, bad faith, and as counsel to corporate executives, municipalities and elected officials on business litigation cases. He also serves as an expert witness on insurance law, bad faith and coverage issues, and he is an Adjunct Professor on Insurance Law at the Loyola University Chicago School of Law.



Previously Rick was the Assistant Deputy Director of the Illinois Department of Insurance's Chicago office, and he held managerial positions in property claims and agency for two national insurance carriers, and as Executive Director and General Counsel for a national insurance trade association.

Mr. Hammond is Past-President of the Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel, formerly served on the faculty and Board of Directors of the Insurance School of Chicago, and he is a columnist for the International Association of Special Investigation Units' (IASIU) magazine, "SIU Today." Rick is a member of the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel and former Chair of their Property Insurance Law Section. He is also a Fellow of the American College of Coverage and Extra-Contractual Counsel and former Illinois State Representative of DRI.

Mr. Hammond serves on the Board of Trustees of Loyola University Chicago, and on the Board of Arrupe College of Loyola University. He was one of two attorneys in the country selected by the Lexis Nexis Insurance Law Center to receive its "Insurance Lawyer of the Year Award."

**Laura J. Hanson**  
Meagher + Geer, P.L.L.P.

Laura serves as chair of the Insurance Coverage practice group for the firm's Minneapolis office. She focuses her practice on commercial insurance coverage — particularly environmental and construction defect claims and litigation, which she has handled throughout the United States in the state and federal trial and appeals courts. She has appeared in three state supreme courts and four different federal circuit courts of appeals.



Her practice also includes insurance coverage disputes under life, health and disability policies; medical stop-loss policies; and insurance agent errors and omissions policies.

Laura has the experience to advise her clients on the potential outcomes and cost of litigation and let that drive the strategy. She's passionate about achieving her client's goals by looking at individual cases and claims in the context of the client's business and strategy.

Laura repeatedly has been named to the *Super Lawyers*® list in the category of insurance coverage by Minnesota *Super Lawyers* magazine. She has also appeared in that publication's list of Top 100 Women Super Lawyers. She is also listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® for her insurance coverage practice. Laura is named a Fellow in the American College of Coverage Counsel. In addition to her legal practice, Laura served as co-chair of the Section of Litigation's Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee for the American Bar Association from 2013-2016. She served as vice-chair for the 2008 meeting of the Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee of the American Bar Association and she served as the chair for that meeting in 2009. She is a member of the Defense Research Institute and a speaker at insurance conferences sponsored by Defense Research Institute and the American Bar Association.

Laura has also published articles in insurance publications, including Claims Magazine, and the publication of National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC).

**Christine Haskett**  
Covington & Burling LLP

Christine Haskett is a trial lawyer who represents insurance policyholders in litigation, arbitration, and claims disputes with commercial insurance carriers. Ms. Haskett's practice encompasses almost every type of insurance coverage dispute, with a focus on property and business interruption insurance, asbestos and other long-tail liabilities, construction defect claims, and representations and warranties, E&O, and D&O insurance. Ms. Haskett has a chemical engineering background, which gives her special expertise in insurance disputes involving the chemical, oil, and manufacturing industries.



**Michael Huddleston**

Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C.

Michael W. Huddleston is an equity shareholder with Munsch, Hardt, Kopf & Harr, and leads the Insurance Recovery Practice Group, representing corporate and professional policyholders in insurance coverage and bad faith disputes. He also advises clients on a variety of risk management and insurance procurement issues arising in contracts in a wide variety of industries, including oil and gas, hospitality, construction, real estate, and cyber/technology. He is a former Chair and one of the founding officers in the Insurance Section of the Texas Bar. Late last year, Huddleston received the “Trial Legend” Award from the Dallas Bar Association’s Tort and Insurance Practice Section (2019). He was elected to the American College of Coverage Lawyers and was selected as the Texas Lawyer “Go-To” Lawyer in Insurance in 2012, chosen as Attorney of the Year in Insurance by Best Lawyer (2015 and 2019), selected a Top 100 Texas Super Lawyer by Texas Monthly (2019), and rated as a Band One Insurance Lawyer by Chambers.



## Matthew L. Jacobs

Jones Day

Matt Jacobs has successfully litigated complex, multiparty insurance coverage matters in numerous state and federal courts, as well as through arbitrations and mediations. He secured a groundbreaking victory in a significant pollution exclusion ruling relating to Chinese drywall; obtained a ruling of first impression under Virginia law from a federal district court regarding the issue of exhaustion of underlying insurance limits; obtained multiple millions of dollars on behalf of clients who have been sued in large securities class actions; and served as a mediator in complex insurance disputes.



While Matt has advised corporate boards regarding insurance recovery strategies to address company-threatening exposures, he also has worked closely with risk managers in the placement and renewal of various types of insurance coverage, including cyber insurance, directors and officers policies, and property insurance. Most recently, Matt has worked with clients in securing reps and warranty coverage in connection with multiple cross-border M&A transactions. The 2018 edition of *Chambers USA* noted that he "is knowledgeable, detailed, forthright and well spoken" and someone "[who] takes initiative and gets things done."

Matt is author or coauthor of more than 75 papers and articles on insurance coverage topics. He is a member of the editorial advisory board of the *Environmental Claims Journal* and was recognized as "Author of the Year — Insurance USA" by the Lexology Legal Writing Awards. He has spoken at more than 100 insurance coverage conferences during his career and has chaired a dozen such conferences. He has been quoted extensively on developments in insurance law in national publications, television, and radio.

**Linda Kornfeld**  
Blank Rome

Linda Kornfeld is one of the nation's most prominent insurance recovery attorneys, representing corporate policyholders in high-stakes litigation for more than 25 years. Using strategic, creative approaches in her trial and appellate practice, Linda assists her clients in the recovery of hundreds of millions of dollars in insurance assets. She is a strategic adviser to senior executives and in-house counsel on mitigating risk and maximizing insurance recoveries.



*Chambers USA - California* reports, "Linda Kornfeld is 'encyclopedic when it comes to coverage law, has remarkable expertise and knowledge of her field and is very strategic,' say interviewees. She impresses market sources with her adroit handling of complex coverage matters, including those in emerging areas such as cybersecurity and data breaches."

*Chambers - Nationwide* states, "Linda Kornfeld is an experienced insurance practitioner noted for her skills in assisting clients in major coverage disputes. She frequently represents universities, telecommunication companies and nonprofit organizations. Sources say: 'She is very thorough, thoughtful and has a great background in complex insurance matters.'"

*Legal 500 US* calls her an "exceptionally talented insurance litigation expert."

**Seth Lamden**

Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg LLP

Seth D. Lamden is a partner in Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg LLP's Insurance Policyholder Practice Group. He concentrates his legal practice on assisting policyholders understand and enforce their rights to insurance coverage. He has helped policyholders from a broad array of industries, including construction, utilities, manufacturing, professional services, financial services, and managed care, recover hundreds of millions of dollars in insurance proceeds.



Seth is a Fellow of the American College of Coverage Counsel. He also serves as a member of the Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel's Board of Directors and is an Executive Editor of the International Risk Management Institute, Inc.'s CGL Reporter. He is a past chair of the American Bar Association's Self-Insurance and Risk Management Committee of the Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section (TIPS) and serves as a Vice Chair of TIPS' Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee. He has written more than 60 articles and nine book chapters on topics relating to insurance coverage, including: Duty to Defend, 3 New Appleman on Insurance Law Library Edition § 17; Product Liability Insurance, 3 New Appleman Law of Liability Insurance § 16; and Discovery, 12 New Appleman on Insurance Law Library Edition § 152. He maintains a Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent™ rating and is listed in the area of insurance coverage in The Best Lawyers in America, Illinois Super Lawyers, and Leading Lawyers Network.

**Jean Lawler**

Lawler ADR Services, LLC.

Formerly a senior partner with Murchison & Cumming, LLP in Los Angeles where she represented insurers as an insurance coverage and bad faith lawyer, Jean M. Lawler is now an MC-3 Certified Mediator at Lawler ADR Services, LLC, which she started in 2017. A Founding Fellow and Regent of the American College of Coverage Counsel, she has a deep knowledge of the insurance industry, insurance policies and the risks they insure against. Her legal experience has been diverse and international - ranging from insurance coverage/bad faith, tort, business, professional liability and complex civil and commercial litigation, to evolving risks including data breach, cyber & privacy liability. She served as Managing Partner of Murchison and at times chaired the firm's Insurance Law, Cyber & Privacy Law, International Law, and Business & Real Estate Transactions practice groups. She is also a Past President of the FDCC and the Insuralex Global Insurance Lawyers Group (Chambers-Band 1).



Based in Southern California, Ms. Lawler understands the personal/emotional, business, insurance and coverage issues that can be key components in resolving litigation and has a proven track record of helping parties resolve a wide range of matters through the mediation process. She is a Neutral with NAM (National Arbitration and Mediation) and serves as a panel mediator for the USDC for the Central District of California and the California Court of Appeals, 2d District.

**Anthony Leuin**  
Shartsis Frieese LLP

Tony Leuin is a senior litigation partner at Shartsis Frieese LLP in San Francisco, California. Founder of the firm's Insurance Recovery practice, he and his group represent policyholders in all manner of insurance coverage disputes. Tony is active in cutting-edge coverage litigation involving opioid claims, sexual harassment and assault claims, and cyber losses. He has decades of experience in coverage disputes involving Directors and Officers policies, Professional Liability coverages, environmental claims and liability, and property losses. His practice is as diverse as the California economy, and he regularly represents clients in real estate, manufacturing, semiconductor, and other high-tech businesses, as well as some of Northern California's top wineries.



Tony has been a Contributing Editor to California Practice Guide: Insurance Litigation (The Rutter Group); has repeatedly been named a "Super Lawyer" in Insurance Coverage; currently sits on ACCC's Membership Committee; and frequently writes and speaks on coverage matters. Tony also chairs a Risk Purchasing Group through which more than 40 mid-size law firms around the country negotiate professional liability coverage for their more than 2000 attorneys.

**Daniel Litchfield**  
Litchfield Cavo

Dan focuses his practice on insurance coverage and extra-contractual liability counseling, Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), litigation, trials and appeals. He also defends class action cases. Dan has handled a wide variety of civil cases over the years including construction defect, business tort, antitrust and employment discrimination cases.

From 1987 to 2000, Dan was heavily involved in insurance environmental coverage litigation and served as lead counsel for insurers in some of the largest such cases including cases against Fortune 100 Companies. Dan has handled state or federal cases in 31 states.



**Paula Litt**  
Honigman LLP

Paula E. Litt is a partner in Honigman's Chicago office. She is a commercial litigator and the leader of the firm's Insurance Recovery and Advisory Practice Group. She advises clients regarding legal strategies in bringing, defending, or avoiding litigation.

Ms. Litt handles a full range of commercial disputes including purchase and sale agreements, distributorship agreements, commercial leases, loan agreements, employment agreements, executive compensation and non-compete agreements, and joint venture agreements.



In addition, she represents corporate policyholders in insurance coverage disputes, including third-party claims for general, professional, management and employment liability, and first-party claims for property damage and business interruption.

Ms. Litt serves as a neutral arbitrator of commercial disputes as a member of the American Arbitration Association Roster of Arbitrators and Mediators.

Ms. Litt received the 2019 Award for Excellence in Pro Bono Service, presented by the U.S. District Court of the Northern District of Illinois and the Chicago Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. She is ranked by *Chambers USA* in Band 1 for Insurance Dispute Resolution (Illinois), and is a member of The American Law Institute. Ms. Litt earned her J.D. from Harvard Law School, her M.A. from the University of Chicago, and her B.S. *summa cum laude* from The Ohio State University.

**Joann Lytle**

McCarter & English, LLP

Joann M. Lytle is a partner in the Philadelphia office of McCarter & English, LLP. Ms. Lytle represents corporate policyholders in complex insurance coverage disputes and provides insurance coverage counseling to clients in various industries. She has litigated and provided advice on a wide variety of insurance coverage claims, including asbestos-related bodily injury claims, other product liability claims, additional insured claims, product recall claims, errors and omissions claims, and directors and officers claims. In addition to counseling clients concerning coverage disputes with their carriers, Ms. Lytle also advises clients who are considering new insurance products and analyzing the adequacy of their existing insurance programs.



**Michael Manire**  
Manire Galla Curley LLP

Mike Manire's practice has focused on insurance since 1993. Mr. Manire has represented global D&O, E&O, and professional liability insurers in connection with complex claims on policies issued both in the U.S. and abroad. He has represented insurers in coverage and bad faith litigation, and he has participated in settlements of both coverage and underlying liability issues in hundreds of matters, including securities fraud class actions, shareholder derivative actions, antitrust actions, creditors' committee and bankruptcy trustee claims, breach of fiduciary duty claims, consumer class actions, employment liability actions, bankers' and investment advisers' liability claims, media and intellectual property claims, and a variety of other professional and management negligence claims.



Mike Manire's practice has focused on insurance since 1993. Mr. Manire has represented global D&O, E&O, and professional liability insurers in connection with complex claims on policies issued both in the U.S. and abroad. He has represented insurers in coverage and bad faith litigation, and he has participated in settlements of both coverage and underlying liability issues in hundreds of matters, including securities fraud class actions, shareholder derivative actions, creditors' committee and bankruptcy trustee claims, breach of fiduciary duty claims, consumer class actions, employment liability actions, bankers' and investor advisors' liability claims, media and intellectual property claims, and a variety of other professional and management negligence claims. Before 1993, Mr. Manire practiced in New York City primarily as a transactional and corporate lawyer. That experience informs his approach to dispute resolution, and he has continued to represent clients on business, regulatory and financial matters.

**Christopher Martin**

Martin, Disiere, Jefferson & Wisdom

Mr. Martin is one of the most recognized insurance attorneys in Texas. He is the author of three legal Treatises on Texas Insurance Law, he is a frequent speaker at state and national insurance programs and conferences, and previously he served as the professor of Insurance Law at the University of Houston Law School for 10 years. He has tried numerous insurance coverage and bad faith lawsuits in Texas and in 14 other states and he has received multiple recognitions for his skills in trying insurance lawsuits.



**Ernest Martin Jr.**  
Haynes & Boone, LLP

Mr. Martin is a Partner and Chair of the Insurance Recover Practice Group of Haynes and Boone LLP in Dallas, Texas.

In 1998 he founded the Texas Insurance Law Section of the State Bar of Texas and is the Section's Founding Chairman. He is also the Past Chairman of the Tort and Insurance Section of the Dallas Bar Association. He is the current Co-Chair of the Insurance Committee of the Litigation Section of the ABA. He has also been an Adjunct Professor of Insurance Law at the SMU School of Law for over 15 years.



He represents company policyholders and specializes in handling complex insurance coverage matters. He is a frequent author and speaker, both locally and nationally, on insurance-related issues.

He received his B.A. from Rice University in 1984 and his law degree from the University of California at Berkeley Boalt Hall in 1987.

**Suzanne Midlige**  
Coughlin Duffy LLP

Suzanne Cocco Midlige is the Managing Partner and a founding member of Coughlin Duffy LLP. She is also a member of the Firm's Insurance and Reinsurance Services Group.



Prior to election to managing partner, Suzanne served as the practice group leader for the Insurance and Reinsurance Services Group from 2004 to 2012. Suzanne's practice focuses on the representation of domestic and international insurers and reinsurers in litigated and non-litigated matters. She has extensive experience representing multi-national companies involved in transnational disputes. Suzanne has years of experience representing the interests of insurers and reinsurers in disputes relating to financial institutions, director and officer disputes, asbestos, pollution, health hazards, and the recent opioid litigation. Suzanne has acted for multinational reinsurers in a series of corporate malfeasance claims and failed tax strategy claims, as well as coordinating counsel for a multinational reinsurer in relation to subprime and credit exposures. She has significant experience with asbestos coverage disputes, including the area of asbestos bankruptcy litigation. Significant cases include acting as counsel to 50 multinational insurers in a complex insurance and antitrust dispute involving US and Australian asbestos claims, as well as counsel to European insurers in asbestos coverage litigation filed in the US and London. Suzanne works closely with insurers in relation to the development and implementation of models to allocate losses across complex insurance programs, and in evaluating future loss projections and developing burn rate analyses.

Suzanne served as a judicial clerk to Hon. William G Bassler, Judge of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey.

**Hope Nightingale**  
Litchfield Cavo

Hope focuses her practice on insurance coverage and related coverage litigation. She advises clients on a wide range of insurance coverage issues, from complex multi-party commercial claims to personal lines such as homeowner's or underinsured motorist coverage. Hope has significant experience advising liability insurers on their rights and obligations, in monitoring underlying liability claims for excess insurers, and litigating where needed. Hope frequently addresses risks that may involve breach of contract, bad faith and other extra-contractual relief. Her insurance clients include primary, excess and non-admitted insurers in multiple jurisdictions.



Hope also advises clients on compliance with various federal and state laws, dispute resolution, termination of employees, retaliation and alleged discrimination. Hope represents employers in courts or agencies in response to complaints or charges asserted against them.

**Neil Rambin**

Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP

W. Neil Rambin represents clients in complex commercial insurance litigation, insurance coverage disputes, extra-contractual claims and disputes between insurance and reinsurance companies. With more than 35 years of experience, he has litigated a wide variety of claims and disputes that have arisen from general liability, professional liability, property, marine, aviation, workers' compensation, fidelity, automobile, excess liability, umbrella and surplus policies. Since January 1, 2016, he and/or his team have tried eleven first party property cases to a jury verdict, obtaining a complete defense verdict of no-liability in ten of those cases. In addition to Texas, he has litigated matters in California, Oregon, New Mexico, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia and Massachusetts.



Neil also counsels insurers and reinsurers on their coverage obligations and the avoidance of bad faith claims, as well as reinsured and reinsurers in matters arising out of reinsurance agreements.

## **Marc E. Rosenthal**

Proskauer

Marc E. Rosenthal is a partner in the Insurance Recovery & Counseling Group. He has significant experience as a litigator and corporate adviser who focuses on issues of insurance and reinsurance. Marc is listed in *Chambers USA*, in which he is described as, "key to bringing closure to many important negotiated settlements. He is "very focused, good to deal with and very good at resolving issues" and "very good tactically and takes a very pragmatic view."



Marc represents clients in insurance coverage matters involving first party, third party, D&O, product recall and contamination, environmental, toxic tort, business interruption, advertising injury, general liability, and professional E&O coverage; reinsurance arbitration; commercial litigation; mediation; negotiation; coverage analysis; and claims counsel. Marc's experience includes federal, state and bankruptcy court coverage litigation, multi-party mediation, and various forms of domestic and international arbitration under US, Bermuda, UK and Canadian rules.

In addition, Marc advises and represents boards of directors concerning corporate governance; negotiation, placement, and terms of D&O insurance and corporate indemnification; coverage analysis; liaison with insurance brokers, carriers, and counsel; and bankruptcy issues.

Marc represents and counsels clients in matters involving formation and regulation of captive insurance companies; insurance company and insurance agency regulation, compensation, and compliance; regulation, financing, and securitization of viatical settlements and life settlements for providers, brokers, and investors; and design and implementation of insurance-related products and programs for equipment manufacturers, financing companies, captives, real estate trusts, charitable organizations, and service providers.

Lastly, Marc represents and counsels corporate clients concerning insurance aspects of M&A transactions, insurance company acquisitions and restructuring; insurance regulatory advice; risk management and insurance program placement and negotiation; and insurance and reinsurance contract drafting and negotiation.

**Tracy Alan Saxe**  
Saxe Doernberger & Vita

Tracy Alan Saxe, President and CEO at Saxe Doernberger & Vita, is a skilled commercial litigator focused on insurance coverage on behalf of policyholders. He handles cases involving coverage for comprehensive general liability, directors and officers, professional liability, builders risk, sub-guard, first-party property damage, additional insured, and business interruption claims.



Mr. Saxe has litigated insurance coverage matters all over the country, and has successfully tried numerous jury and court trials in state and federal courts. He handles cases before the federal, state trial and appellate courts in Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Maryland, Massachusetts, California, Washington State, Texas, Florida, Delaware, Indiana, and Michigan. He has successfully mediated and arbitrated many disputes. Mr. Saxe has been an Adjunct Professor of Law at Quinnipiac University where he taught Insurance Law. He frequently lectures on insurance coverage nationwide.

**Jay Sever**  
Phelps

Mr. Jay Sever is a partner in the Insurance and Reinsurance group of Phelps Dunbar. He is the Regional Practice Coordinator for the firm's insurance practice group and is also head of the insurance and reinsurance practice group in the New Orleans office. He serves as local, regional and national coverage counsel for both foreign and domestic insurance companies. He counsels clients, manages disputes and tries cases involving a wide variety of insurance coverage issues, including matters arising from bad faith, construction defects claims, third-party liability claims, first-party claims, professional liability claims, crane and rigging claims, racing and competitive sport claims, entertainment claims, transportation claims, environmental claims, general and toxic tort claims, advertising, copyright and trademark claims, media liability claims, multiple-year trigger and allocation issues, marine liability claims, Louisiana direct action claims and numerous others.



In addition to handling cases in Louisiana and California courts in which he is admitted, Jay also has acted as lead counsel in cases pending in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and Washington. Jay's practice, both litigation and counseling, involves attorneys from all of Phelps Dunbar's offices in the Gulf South and, where necessary, local counsel in states throughout the United States.

**Melissa Sims**

Berk, Merchant & Sims, PLC.

Melissa McMillan Sims is an “AV” rated, Founding member of the law firm of Berk, Merchant & Sims, PLC. Ms. Sims received her BA from Louisiana State University and her J.D. from St. Thomas University in Miami, Florida. She has been admitted to the Louisiana State Bar since 1992 and the Florida Bar since 1996. She is also admitted in the United States District Court for the Eastern, Western and Middle Districts of Louisiana since 1992 and the Eleventh Circuit, the U.S. District Court, Southern, Middle and Northern Districts of Florida since 1996. She is a member of the American Bar Association, Federal Bar Association, Louisiana State Bar Association, Florida Bar (member Tort & Insurance Section) and American College of Coverage and Extracontractual Counsel. Ms. Sims has tried insurance coverage cases involving arson, windstorm damage, jewelry theft, and a variety of property losses to defense verdicts for the insurance company. She has presented on insurance issues at the Florida Advisory Committee on Arson Prevention Conference, the Windstorm Insurance Network Conference, Miami Bench & Bar Conference and the American Bar Association Insurance Litigation Section Conference. Ms. Sims areas of practice include: Insurance Bad Faith Litigation, Commercial Insurance Coverage and Litigation, First and Third Party Insurance Coverage Litigation and Pre-Suit Property Claims Investigation.



## **Marcus Snowden**

Snowden Law P.C.

A Fellow of the College since 2016, Marcus Snowden restricts his practice to opining on, strategic advice for, and litigating to trial and appeal coverage issues under primary CGL, E&O and D&O /special lines liability, and related excess and reinsurance programs along with commercial property insurance. He advises clients in underlying domestic and international cross-border and overseas litigation. He co-authors *Annotated Commercial General Liability Policy*, a loose-leaf text updated annually. Marcus holds membership in the Canadian Defence Lawyers Association, Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel, Defense Research Institute, Inc. and American Bar Association.



## Wayne D. Taylor

Mozley Finlayson & Loggins, LLP

Wayne Taylor is an AV-rated trial lawyer who joined the firm as a partner in 1995. Mr. Taylor maintains a national practice representing insurers primarily in complex insurance coverage and bad faith matters, including commercial property and business interruption, bad faith and extra-contractual litigation, excess and surplus lines coverage, builder's risk, boiler and machinery, suspected arson and fraudulent claims, Chinese drywall, domestic intrastate and interstate motor truck carrier liability, warehouseman's legal liability, and jewelers block. He has extensive experience in third-party liability coverage analysis and litigation, including general liability, environmental and complex torts, directors and officers, professional liability (errors and omissions), advertising injury and intellectual property, construction defects, and employment practices liability. Mr. Taylor has handled substantial property loss claims throughout the United States, including a number of claims related to major catastrophes such as September 11, 2001, the 2004 Florida hurricanes, Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Ike, the 2010 Oklahoma tornados, the 2011 Alabama tornados, Superstorm Sandy in 2012, Hurricane Matthew, Hurricane Irma, and Hurricane Michael.



Mr. Taylor has handled claims related to real property of virtually every scale, ranging from homeowner's claims to claims on substantial shopping malls, hotels, manufacturing facilities, and major sports venues around the country. Mr. Taylor also provides representation to insurers in subrogation matters. His clients retain him on a regional and national basis, trusting his coverage counsel in major claims. Recent engagements include a claim of more than \$16 million in New York and two hurricane-related claims totaling more than \$100 million in Florida. Mr. Taylor is a trained and certified mediator, specializing in insurance coverage disputes, and an umpire certified by the Windstorm Insurance Network.

Mr. Taylor is a Fellow of the American College of Coverage Counsel, currently serves as its Secretary-Treasurer, and was the recipient of that organization's Thomas F. Segalla Service Award at its 2016 annual conference. He also is a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America. Mr. Taylor has been recognized as a Georgia "Super Lawyer" in Insurance Coverage by Super Lawyers Magazine every year since 2014, and he has been named one of the Top 100 Lawyers in Georgia for the last three years. Mr. Taylor also has been recognized by Best Lawyers of America for Insurance Coverage Litigation every year since 2016. In addition to being a Fellow of the American College of Coverage Counsel and the Litigation Counsel of America, Mr. Taylor is a WIND Fellow of the Windstorm Insurance Network, a member of its Board of Directors, and received the Presidential Recognition Award at its 2018 annual WIND conference. Mr. Taylor also was named an Attorney to Watch in 2018 by Attorney at Law Magazine.

Mr. Taylor is the co-author of "Unique Coverage Issues in Flood Losses," published in the Winter 2013 issue of the *Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Law Journal*, 48 Tort Trial & Ins. Prac. L.J. 619 (2013). He also is the co-author of "Defective and Corrosive Drywall: Analyzing First-

Party Coverage Issues,” published in the Fall 2010 issue of the *Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Law Journal*, 46 Tort Trial & Ins. Prac. L.J. 63 (2011). In addition, Mr. Taylor co-authored “Damage Occurring from Theft of Copper: Is the Damage Covered as Vandalism or Excluded as Theft?,” one of the featured articles published in the September 2011 online edition of *Claims Advisor*.

Mr. Taylor lectures frequently to lawyers and insurance industry professionals throughout the country and internationally on a wide range of topics involving insurance coverage, bad faith and the investigation of suspected arson and fraudulent insurance claims. Mr. Taylor also has experience in the management of his firm, having served on its Management Committee and chaired the Firm Development Group, the firm’s marketing committee.

**Rhonda J. Tobin**  
Robinson & Cole LLP

Rhonda Tobin is a Partner at Robinson & Cole LLP and has extensive experience representing insurance companies in complex insurance coverage litigation, including in lawsuits seeking extracontractual remedies, for 30 years. She regularly counsels insurers regarding insurance claims under professional liability, excess and umbrella and commercial general liability, directors and officers and property insurance policies. Her experience in the defense of coverage and bad faith litigation is significant, including being retained on the eve of trial to take over the defense of bad faith cases previously handled by other firms. Her litigation and trial experience includes coverage and bad faith cases in several state and federal courts. Rhonda also regularly provides training to her clients on insurance coverage issues and good faith claim handling practices.



**Ellen M. Van Meir**  
Thompson Coe

As a lead lawyer in Thompson Coe's insurance litigation and coverage practice group, Ellen represents primary and excess insurers nationwide on questions of coverage and claims handling. Her practice focuses on significant losses in a variety of industries including construction, oil and gas, financial products, trucking and products liability across the country. Ellen regularly represents insurers in disputes arising out of catastrophic bodily injury and property damage claims, intellectual property and cyber law claims, environmental claims, and professional malpractice claims. Ellen frequently counsels her clients in matters of policy contract rights and obligations, good faith duties to insureds and settlement and allocation issues involving single and multi-carrier cases in areas of liability, professional errors and omissions, pollution, umbrella and excess coverage, *Stowers'* liability and "bad faith" litigation.



Ellen has been recognized in Chambers USA for Insurance as a Leading Lawyer since 2013 and was named a Top 50 Woman Lawyer in Texas in *Texas Monthly* magazine in 2018.

**Bryan M. Weiss**  
Murchison & Cumming

Bryan M. Weiss is a Partner and Co-Chair of Murchison & Cumming's Insurance Law Practice Group, specializing in providing coverage advice to insurers and representing insurers in declaratory relief and bad faith actions, as well as handling appeals in insurance-related matters. Mr. Weiss' expertise includes intellectual property and Coverage B coverage matters, first party property matters, and coverage issues arising under general and professional liability policies.



Mr. Weiss is a frequent author and speaker on insurance-related issues, having presented at numerous DRI, IADC and PLRB conferences. Mr. Weiss is "AV" rated by Martindale Hubbell and was elected as a Fellow in the American College of Coverage Counsel. He is presently the Vice Chair of Journal Articles for IADC's Insurance and Reinsurance Committee. Mr. Weiss was selected for inclusion in the 26th Edition of The Best Lawyers in America for his work in Insurance Law.