

**Construction Defect Seminar** 

1993 - 2022



May 12<sup>th</sup> and 13, 2022 The Disneyland Resort Hotel Anaheim, California

# Seminar Invitation

Since 1993 . . .

America's <u>Largest</u> ... America's <u>Favorite</u> ... America's <u>Best</u>...

Construction Defect Event!!!



From a sea of seats...
. . . to a sea of suits



. . . and beyond . . .





The world's largest Construction Defect Event welcomes you "home" to the world renowned Disney Resort in beautiful Anaheim California

The worlds ONLY construction defect seminar built by you, about you and for you A seminar good for you professionally, good for your organization and good for your community

# Welcome to the 28<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As I sit here preparing this welcome letter, I say to myself, WOW, what an absolutely crazy and trying year 2020 and 2021 have been. Since early January 2020 and continuing even through today, this planet has not seen the events like these before and hopefully, we never will again.

Many have contacted me and have asked whether or not we will have our seminar in 2022 and several months ago, I didn't feel I could answer that question because quite honestly, I didn't know myself.



But . . . . Since 1993, the West Coast Casualty Construction Defect Seminar series has become the undeniable leader regarding education of the construction defect community. Many say our seminar has become an institution, a staple and a landmark for construction defect issues across the globe and the only reason we have achieved that status is because we concentrate our efforts on the most important people in this community, the attendees of our yearly events.

I think that based on our knowledge, our experience and the many supporters who have come to help us over the years, we believe that in May 2022 we will go forward with a wonderful event and after 22 years in Anaheim at the Disney Resort, we are really looking forward to an exciting event as we return to the Disney Resort.

While, as of the date of printing of this invitation, we have all learned a lot about the Coronavirus but most importantly, we have learned how to deal with it as best we can. Many, including myself, believe that life must go on but we do so as cautious as we can under the circumstances that face us. We, like many across the globe, believe that soon, this will all be behind us or we'll all know how to better deal with it.

In the construction defect community we have always been a social community despite our many differences and it is that need for social contact, under the best conditions now available, that we believe we can go forward in May 2022.

You may rest assured that every precaution will be taken, and no expense will be spared to make sure that the neccesry precautions will be taken, and every safety concern will be met. In the days, weeks and months ahead, we will be working with new partners, new ideas, governmental agencies, the medical community and new technologies to ensure the safety of our event is our top priority. These changes may involve last minute changes to ensure that safety remains our top priority for everyone associated with our seminar. Right up to the last minute, we will do what we have to do to ensure the safety of everyone at our event.

As many of you already know we dedicate a lot of time to listening to those we serve at our seminars and we prepare our events with the ideas, suggestions and goals of the attendees in mind. Toward that end, we use our knowledge and experience to make positive changes for both our attendees and our speakers which started with our questionnaire process that took place in September 2021.

Within this seminar invitation, you will begin to see some of the great topics we have for our seminar. At the time of the printing of this packet and in the weeks ahead, we will be looking at many new technological achievements and advances whose tools we will be using at our seminar.

Lastly and most importantly, may you, your families, your friends and colleagues remain well, healthy and safe.

I'll look forward to seeing you in May "back home" in Anaheim.

With best regards,

West Coast Casualty Service, Inc.

#### Dave Stern

David Stern, RPA, President and Corporate Secretary davestern@westcoastcasualty.com

#### The Topics and Speakers Committee of West Coast Casualty's 2022 Construction Defect Seminar



**Linda Tonkovich**Gallagher Bassett
Committee Chair



**Ross W. Feinberg, Esq.** Mediator – JAMS



**Glenn Barger, Esq.** Mediator, ADR Services



Phyllis Modlin Markel

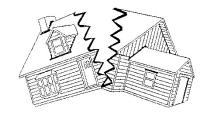


Kenneth Kasdan, Esq. Kasdan Lippsmith Weber Turner, LLP



**Bruce Wick**Director of Risk Management
Housing Contractors of California

#### West Coast Casualty's



Construction Defect Seminar May 12 and 13, 2022

### "Yep... there's an App for that now..."

Why is our new interactive app the most useful to our attendees?

# Because it gives you everything you need but allows you to choose what you want ....

Our Construction Defect Seminar Mobile App has been designed to enhance your overall seminar experience and once you are registered, it enables you to:

Easily access important event information, such as:

- o A complete schedule of events (breakouts, keynotes, meals, expo hours etc.)
- o Speaker information
- o Product information
- o Sponsor details
- o Interactive floor plans and Disneyland Hotel venue maps
- o For registered attendees only: access to session presentations
- Share your event experience with others by checking in to sessions, meeting areas, and sponsor booths.
- See what is most popular with your fellow attendees.
- Expand your professional network and have fun! The App provides an easy way to connect with fellow attendees, and sponsors during the event but only if you want too.
- Respond to general event surveys.
- Rate general sessions and speakers.
- Receive reminders of upcoming sessions.
- Get notifications with the latest news and updates.

Our Mobile App is available for iPhone/iPad, Android and HTML5 for Blackberry. Once you have downloaded the App and accessed it the first time, you will still have access to your event content, with or without a Wi-Fi or cellular internet connection.

So bring your own device and you'll find plenty of charging stations, compliments of your host



#### Wednesday, May 11, 2022

Early Seminar Registration 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Disney Convention Center - La Strada Entry

### Thursday, May 12, 2022

Registration and Breakfast - 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

**Disney Convention Center - Exhibit Hall** 

#### **Breakfast Sponsored by**



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8:20 AM - 8:30 AM Welcome Remarks

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM
Recent Important Decisions from California, Arizona, and Nevada Courts
Chelsea Zwart, Esq.

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM Litigating in the Western States – A Judge's Perspective

Holly Davies, Esq., Hon. Justice Michael Cherry, (ret.), Judge Peter B. Swann, Hon. Sue Kurita, and Hon. James (Jim) E. Rogers

> 10:30 AM – 10:45 AM Morning Break

**Disney Convention Center – Exhibit Hall** 

Morning Break Sponsored by



#### Thursday, May 12, 2022

10:45 AM - 11:45 AM

Construction Trends of the Future and Their Impact on Construction Claims Risk Management and Coverage Jennifer Kalvestran, Esq., Karen Rice, Phyllis Modlin, and Lisa Cappelluti, Esq.

> 11:45 AM - 12:00 PM "Ollie" and "Legends" Awards Presentation

> 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM Lunch **Disney Convention Center – Exhibit Hall** (Seminar Registration Will be Closed During Lunch)

> > 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

The Intersection of Builders Risk, CGL, Contractors Professional Liability, and Subcontractor Default Coverage – What Covers What? Keith D. Koeller, Esq., Karen Rice, Mark Gothold, and Peter Mintzer, Esq.

> 2:30 PM - 3:00 PM Afternoon Break

> 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

How the Pandemic Has Changed Construction Defect Trials and Arbitrations Hon. Christopher T. Whitten, and James Orland, Esq.

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Myth busters: Builders and Subcontractors do work together to reduce their costs of claims and cost of risk. Bruce Wick, Gene Marinacci, Tom Byars and Robert Closson, Esq.

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM Cocktail Reception

**Disney Convention Center – Exhibit Hall** 

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#### Friday, May 13, 2022

Registration and Breakfast - 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

**Disney Convention Center – Exhibit Hall** 

**Breakfast Sponsored by** 



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#### **Grand Ballroom**

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

South Ballroom 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

Friendly Fire – Reconciling Coverage Disputes with the Best Interests of All Parties
Cheryl Kozdrey, Esq.
Cameron Kalunian, Esq.
David Beck, Esq.

Now that there have been so many technological advancements, how do we incorporate them to improve our practice Brian Kahn, Esq. Joe Vaughn

#### Grand Ballroom

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

South Ballroom 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Southern CD – Not So Charming
Joseph Miele, Jr., Esq.
Mark Boyle, Esq.
Paul Amirata, Esq.
Craig Meredith, Esq.
John Cavo, Esq.

The Logistics of Depositions and Hearings in the Meta Age Geoff Lutz, Esq. Sean Kabo Timothy Dobrenen

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM - Morning Break

**Disney Convention Center – Exhibit Hall** 

#### Friday, May 13, 2022

**Grand Ballroom** 

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

South Ballroom
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Subro, Subro, Who's got the Subro?! Richard Seely, Esq. Larry Letofsky, Esq. Colleen Dougherty, Esq. Kevin Caberto Hybrid Construction Defects and Construction Contract Claims Pete Fowler Barbara Laskaris-Lorigan

**Grand Ballroom** 

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Our Time is Now: Millennials Discuss
Mentorship and Professionalism in the CD
Field
John Gregory
Tracy Yaun, Esq.,
Chantell J. Cornett
Lucas Edwards
Tom Gesner

South Ballroom 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

The Alternative to Alternative Dispute
Resolution – Arbitration in Construction

Matters and Beyond

John H. Toohey, Esq.

Scott Rembold, Esq.

Brett Reuter

Kevin Stineman

Al Clarke, Esq.

Seen Enough Already???

Already Decided You're Coming???

Save Time!! Register On-Line!! Click Here:

#### **Register Online:**

https://westcoastcasualty.regfox.com/west-coast-casualtys-construction-defect-seminar-2022

#### **Register By Check:**

https://westcoastcasualty.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2022-WCCS-CDS-PayByCheck.pdf



#### Paul Amirata, Esq., Senior Vice President, Claims Enstar (US) Inc., St. Petersburg, FL

Paul Amirata, Esq. has over twenty five years of experience in complex insurance coverage matters with particular expertise in construction defect claims and litigation. His current position is Senior Vice President, CGL Claims at Cranmore, a subsidiary of Enstar Group, a company that acquires and manages insurance and reinsurance companies in run-off and provides management, consulting and other services to the global insurance and reinsurance industry. In this position, Mr. Amirata is responsible for overseeing all of Enstar's construction defect claims handled by Enstar's Third Party Administrators, a portfolio consisting of over 2,000 claim groups. Mr. Amirata has been quoted in The Wall Street Journal and has made appearances on the Bloomberg Television network on various construction related issues. Paul

received his Juris Doctorate degree from Hofstra Law School and was admitted to practice law in New Jersey and Pennsylvania in 1990.



#### David Beck, Esq. Division President, Risk Management Clark Construction Group, Bethesda, MD

David Beck oversees risk management at Clark Construction Group. David is responsible for insurance procurement and administration, as well as implementing strategies to minimize risk on new and ongoing work. David has been with Clark since January 2020. Prior to joining Clark, David served as a partner at the law firm of Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman, where he advised clients on the avoidance and resolution of complex business matters, with particular emphasis in the areas of commercial construction and insurance. He handled insurance matters involving builders risk, commercial general liability, directors' and officers' liability, employment liability, cyber liability and workers compensation, among others. David was a member of the team that received the 2016 and 2017 Law Firm of the Year awards in

Construction categories from U.S. News & World Report/Best Lawyers. David earned his bachelor's degree in business from the University of Utah and a juris doctor from the College of William & Mary.



#### Mark A. Boyle, Esq. Managing Shareholder Boyle, Leonard & Anderson, P.A., Fort Myers, FL, Tampa, FL, Charleston SC

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 & Anderson, 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.



# Tom Byars, General Manager 2020 Plumbing & Heating, Menifee, CA

Mr. Byars has been in the Plumbing, Heating and Electrical industry for over 35 years and holds current licenses, C36, C10, C42, C20. Mr. Byars is a former ethics chair for the MPAA as well as a OSHA Outreach Instructor for SDSU. Mr. Byars is a firm believer in leadership development and succession planning as a base strategy while keeping a mindful eye on the acumen on how we operate which has always been a key to success for him. Mr. Byars is a husband, father, grandfather and Part Time Fishermen



#### Lisa Cappelluti, Esq., Partner Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani, San Francisco, CA

Lisa M. Cappelluti is a partner in the San Francisco office of Gordon & Rees and is a member of the Construction practice group. Her practice emphasizes the representation of developers and general contractors in construction disputes and contract consultations. She has represented clients in a wide variety of cases, for both residential and commercial construction projects including defense of habitability claims. Ms. Cappelluti also represents commercial and industrial clients in injury and premises liability matters

throughout California. Ms. Cappelluti has substantial experience assisting developer and general contractor clients in construction litigation and contract matters. She represents clients throughout the state in pre-litigation disputes and construction litigation involving defect issues, construction site injuries, environmental issues, mold claims, contract and delay claims impacting both residential and commercial construction projects. Ms. Cappelluti's trial successes include obtaining a defense verdict on two separate construction trials as well as favorable trial verdicts in construction site injury and construction defect trials. In addition, Ms. Cappelluti has been instrumental in assisting clients in forming corporations, preparing residential development documents for associated real estate transactions, and preparing contracts for developer and construction clients. She also has advised her clients on the procurement and administration of WRAP/OCIP insurance policies. She frequently lectures to members of different contractor groups on construction issues, contract disputes and risk allocation issues facing the construction industry. She has published several articles for the construction industry. Ms. Cappelluti is admitted to practice in California. She earned her law degree from the University of San Francisco and her bachelor's degree from Santa Clara University. She served as the Chair of the State Bar of California Litigation Section and is a member of the Association of General Contractors, Association of Defense Counsel and Claims Resource Management where she regularly serves on panels.



#### Hon. Michael A. Cherry, Chief Justice (ret) Nevada Supreme Court, Las Vegas, NV

Justice Michael Cherry received his under-graduate degree from the University of Missouri and his law degree from Washington University Law School in St. Louis, MO. His legal career spans over 50 years...first as a Deputy Public Defender, then 28 years in private practice. It was during this time he was appointed Special Master to oversee the MGM & Hilton Hotels Fire Litigation and was given the title "Master of Disaster" by his colleagues. He closed his practice in 1997 when asked to serve as the 1st Special

Public Defender overseeing death penalty and homicide cases only. In 1998 he was elected and served 8 years as a District Court Judge hearing civil and criminal cases and was one of the original 3 Judges who established "dirt court" better known as cases involving Construction Defect. In 2006 he was elected to the Nevada Supreme Court serving 12 years and 2 terms as Chief Justice before retiring in January of 2019. Justice Cherry is presently a Senior Judge in the Nevada Courts and also serves as a Private Mediator, Arbitrator, Special Master, and Private Judge. During his legal career he was an Instructor for the University of Phoenix, is an Adjunct Professor at Touro University, and has voluntarily served, and continues to serve, his community on a wide range of non-profit Boards. Justice Cherry was commissioned as an Air Force Officer upon his college graduation and entered the United States Air Force Retired Reserve as a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant.

# RESNICK & LOUIS, P.C. ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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#### Al Clarke, Esq. Attorney At Law Arbitration & Mediation Services, San Diego, CA

Al Clarke was admitted to the practice of law in 1980. As a sole practitioner and a name partner in a San Diego law firm, he enjoyed a general law practice that ranged from construction defect litigation to personal injury suits to drafting construction related contracts to class action securities litigation. He has been actively involved in construction defect related cases since taking his first CD case in 1984. His experience over the years representing plaintiffs (homeowners associations and homeowners), developers and subcontractors as panel counsel for several insurance carriers makes him uniquely positioned to understand the diverse issues concerning this area of law. His representation of numerous suppliers in mechanic's lien cases and litigants in construction contract disputes provides him with insight to the transactional side of construction litigation. In 2000 Al channeled his efforts away from the litigation side of construction cases and became a full time mediator/arbitrator with an emphasis on construction related cases. In 2000, he was appointed as a San Diego Superior Court Pro Tem

Settlement Judge and Arbitrator. He was the Co-Chairman for three years of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Section of the San Diego County Bar Association. In 2001 he was appointed as a member of the Mediation Bench-Bar Committee of the San Diego Superior Court on which he served for two years. In his over 22 years of providing arbitration and mediation services, he has successfully mediated hundreds of complex, multi-party construction related cases including homeowner/homeowner association disputes, real estate contract disputes, mechanic's lien actions, employment law litigation (wrongful termination and discrimination) and personal injury actions.



#### Colleen B. Dougherty, Esq., Staff Counsel Law Offices of Karen M. Johnson, Irvine, CA

Ms. Dougherty is staff counsel for AmTrust North America representing subcontractor-insureds in construction defect and property damage subrogation matters through all phases of litigation. In her career she has also represented major hospital and health care entities in employment and wrongful termination matters through all phases of litigation and trial as well as represented private high-end business clients for breach of contract claims, negotiation of termination of contracts, and review of partnership and non-disclosure agreements. She has tried and defensed Travelers equitable subrogation against subcontractors. She was part of the trial team representing owner/general contractor that defensed construction defect/real estate matter in the famed case of Fred Adelman v. Arrache. She comediated construction defect matters with Ross Feinberg, Esq. Ms. Dougherty is a graduate of

Willamette University College of Law: Juris Doctorate and Santa Clara University: Bachelor of Science in Political Science with emphasis in Public Administration and minor in Economics. She holds a ABA Certificate in ADR and is licensed in California and Texas.



#### Kevin J Caberto, AVP Construction Defect Claims Argo Group, Napa, CA

Kevin Caberto is the AVP of Construction Defect Claims at Argo Group. Based out of his home in Napa, CA, Kevin leads Argo's CD claims group handling claims nationwide. Prior to Argo, Kevin was a Director at Vela Insurance Services, a W.R. Berkley Company, where he managed a team of CD adjusters and also managed a nationwide portfolio of OCIP/CCIP, construction accident, products, professional liability and general casualty claims. Kevin has previously handled matters for OneBeacon, Fireman's Fund and Liberty Mutual, and has over 24 years of claims, dispute resolution and management experience with an emphasis in litigation management, complex coverage issues, and partnering with Underwriting on form development and risk assessment. He has spoken at several industry events including "WRAP Policies: Unwrapping the Expectations and Realities at the West

Coast Casualty Construction Defect Seminar, and "From the Reptile to the Primate: Beating the Reptile in Litigation Management" at the CLM Construction Conference. Kevin has participated in management and negotiation programs at the University of California, Berkeley Haas School of Business, and he is a graduate of the University of California, Irvine with a B.A. in Environmental Analysis & Design.



John Cavo, Esq., Partner Kaufman, Dolowich and Voluck, Chicago, IL

For over 20 years John Cavo has focused his practice in insurance coverage litigation with an emphasis on construction defect claims nationwide. He also handles all phases of coverage advice and litigation involving first party property and business interruption including COVID-19 and natural disaster claims. Mr. Cavo regularly counsels insurers on good faith claims handling and how to avoid being in "bad faith".



Robert V. Closson, Esq. Hirsch Closson, APLC, San Diego, CA

Following graduation from law school in 1986, Mr. Closson initially served as a multi-lines claims representative with Travelers Companies in San Diego before entering private practice in 1987. For the past 35 years he has concentrated his AV rated practice almost exclusively in insurance coverage litigation and appeals, and the rendering of coverage opinions for insurers and insureds. His insurance practice has involved the property and casualty fields of commercial and personal lines policies with an emphasis on construction defect, intellectual property, business litigation and environmental claims. His clients have included insurers, risk retention groups, builders, subcontractors, and trade associations. Mr. Closson is admitted to practice before the California state courts and the U.S. District Courts for the Southern, Central and Northern Districts of California, the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado, and the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Mr. Closson lectures both locally and nationally. He is the grateful recipient of West Coast Casualty's 2018 "Silver Star" award for Best Coverage Counsel.



Chantell J. Cornett, Expert, Principal, Managing Partner Ward Cornett & Associates, Phoenix, AZ

Chantell is a partner at the forensic consulting firm Ward Cornett & Associates (previously The Ward Group). Chantell has over 20 years' experience in the world of construction forensics, representing contractors in disputes related to contract negotiation, job site injury, defect allegations, extra-work claims, default termination, delay claims, forensic cost accounting, among other construction-related claims. Chantell is presently completing (Spring 2022) a Masters in Construction Engineering (M.S.E.) at Arizona State University in the Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering and will sit for her Professional Engineering exams in 2022. Chantell holds an Arizona KB-2 Dual General Contractor license and maintains safety certifications with both the National Safety Council and OSHA. Chantell sits several boards in the community: (1) the Arizona Board of Technical Registration; (2) the Arizona

State University Engineering Department Academic Integrity Board; and (3) the ASTM Committee on Forensic Engineering Standards. Chantell is also a certified fire and explosion investigator (CFEI) and certified estimator and concrete plant inspector. Chantell instructs at the Arizona State University Department of Engineering and provides expert witness and forensic consulting services. An undergraduate of the University of Washington, Seattle – her Pac-12 allegiance remains with her alma mater -- Go Dawgs!

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#### Holly Davies, Esq., General Counsel Campos EPC, LLC

Holly Davies is General Counsel for Campos EPC, LLC, a national engineering, procurement, and construction firm with projects throughout the United States. As General Counsel, she handles legal issues ranging from contract reviews, negotiations, compliance, bond and lien claims, corporate structure, employment law, and litigation for the company. Before joining Campos EPC, Holly was a partner with Lorber, Greenfield & Polito, LLP, practicing in Arizona, New Mexico, and Colorado with a large portion of her practice focusing on construction related matters. Holly serves on the Board of Directors for Women in Construction, West Coast Conference and the Arizona State Bar, Advisory Committee for CD Specialization.



#### Lucas Edwards, Esq., Partner Shinnick & Ryan LLP, San Diego, CA

Lucas Edwards is a partner at Shinnick & Ryan LLP, representing property owners in both residential and commercial construction defect claims. Mr. Edwards also represents tenants in landlord/tenant disputes, primarily involving mass tort and class action claims. Mr. Edwards handles all phases of litigation, including appeals, as well as mediation and arbitration. He is also an active member of his firm's client development and outreach team. Mr. Edwards is licensed to practice in California, Arizona, and New Mexico.



#### Pete Fowler, Construction Consultant, Professional Cost Estimator President and Chief Quality Officer, Pete Fowler Construction

Pete Fowler is a construction consultant, professional cost estimator, President and Chief Quality Officer of Pete Fowler Construction, a licensed general building contractor in California, Nevada, and Oregon. Pete received a B.S. in Construction Management from CSU, Chico. He has held certifications from AAMA, ASPE, ICBO, and others. Mr. Fowler has published articles in national magazines, has been invited to speak by the most important groups in the building industry, and has composed and delivered hundreds of educational programs on building inspection & testing, estimating, quality & construction management, project management, and claims & litigation. Pete has experience with successful expert witness testimony, including Federal Court.



# Tom Gesner, Technical Claims Director, Construction Defect Group AmTrust, Boston MA

Tom Gesner is a Technical Claims Director in the Construction Defect Group at AmTrust and was formerly a Complex Claims Unit Manager in the CD Group with Liberty Mutual. Following his graduation from high school, Tom served on Active Duty with the U.S. Marine Corps and after serving our country, attended the University of Maine obtaining his A.A. in Criminal Justice and B.S. in Social Sciences. Tom began his insurance career in San Diego and has over 30 years of experience in the insurance industry with extensive experience in construction defect where he was part of the original

construction defect team at Golden Eagle. He also has over 10 years as a Quality Assurance Claims Auditor responsible for project management, development of best practices and claims auditing. Growing up he spent many years working for his father (a General Contractor) developing construction skills that would later prove valuable while handling CD claims at several different levels.

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# Mark Gothold, Claims Director, Corporate Risk Management Department McCarthy Holdings, Inc., Newport Beach, CA

Mark Gothold is the Claims Director in the Corporate Risk Management department of McCarthy Holdings, Inc., a national commercial general contractor. He manages losses involving Builder's Risk, Professional, General Liability (personal injury and construction defect), Pollution, Cyber and Employment Practice Liability. Mr. Gothold partners with McCarthy's insurance companies, vendors, and third-party administrators in the adjustment of those claims. He also supervises the handling of Worker's Comp and Auto Liability claims. Mr. Gothold works closely with McCarthy's Legal Department on insurance losses that impact McCarthy's projects, including Subcontractor Default claims. Prior to McCarthy, Mr. Gothold spent over 18 years working for Property & Casualty insurers, handling litigated

claims involving excess, reinsurance and wrap policies.



#### John Gregory, Esq. Jones, Skelton & Hochuli, P.L.C., Phoenix AZ

John Gregory is an attorney at Jones, Skelton & Hochuli, P.L.C.'s Phoenix office, representing clients in a variety of industries, including construction, hospitality, and child care, but his practice has always been focussed on construction defect. John was named a Southwest Super Lawyers Rising Star in the area of construction litigation for 2020-2022, as well as being recognized in Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in Construction Law for 2022. He has written and presented extensively on construction law topics. John currently serves on the Arizona Association of Defense Counsel Board of Directors and is former President of that organization's Young Lawyers Division.



#### Brian Kahn, Esq., Partner Chapman, Glucksman, Dean & Roeb, APC, Los Angeles, CA

Brian Kahn is a Partner with Chapman, Glucksman, Dean & Roeb. His law practice focuses on complex civil litigation, large casualty losses, business and the representation of general contractors, developers, construction managers and design professionals throughout the state of California. He has trial, arbitration and mediation experience. Mr. Kahn earned his B.A. degree from the University of Southern California and his J.D. from Pepperdine University School of Law. While in school he became active in politics, working in various capacities for the U.S. Senate, Governor's office and the White House. Prior to joining Chapman, Glucksman, Dean & Roeb, Mr. Kahn practiced with various law firms, where his practice

included complex litigation, construction litigation, insurance bad faith, toxic tort, business litigation and provided general business advice. Mr. Kahn is a returning speaker at West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar and has recently co-authored Thomson Reuters' *Torts (California Civil Practice Series)*. He has also been a regularly contributing staff writer for multiple audio / video and home theater magazines. When not practicing law or writing, Mr. Kahn enjoys spending time with his family and does community work through Kiwanis International; Co-Chairs the Construction Law Committee of the Association of Southern California Defense Counsel; sits as a Judge Pro-Tem in Ventura County; and serves as President of the Board of Directors of the Leonis Adobe Museum, a non-profit educational group.



#### Cameron Kalunian, Esq. Partner Lewis Brisbois, LLP, Los Angeles, CA

Cameron Kalunian is a partner in the Los Angeles office of Lewis Brisbois, a vice-chair of the nationwide Construction Practice, and a member of the and Complex Litigation Practice. Mr. Kalunian's practice is focused on multi-party litigation in a wide variety of cases involving claims related to breach of contract, fraud, unfair business practices, real estate, construction defect disputes, and various tort claims. Additionally, Mr. Kalunian has served as litigation counsel for both Fortune 500 companies and small businesses in matters involving intellectual property, employment, real estate, financial institutions, and environmental claims. Mr. Kalunian is an experienced trial lawyer who has garnered many favorable verdicts. His reputation as an aggressive and effective trial.



#### Sean Kabo, CGC, CCM, CPE, CDT, Expert Construction Defect Professionals, Inc., Carlsbad, CA

Sean Kabo is president of Construction Defect Professionals, Inc. He has been in the construction industry for 25 years. He started his career digging ditches and swinging a hammer, but quickly worked up the construction ladder to supervising projects while earning a Bachelor of Science degree. After replacing his leather toolbelt with a digital toolbelt he spends most of his time inspecting, testing, researching, analyzing, costing, and testifying as an expert witness in multiple cities, counties, and states in the US. He is typically retained as a standard of care and cost expert for Owners, developers, and contractors on a wide variety of projects including but not limited to high rises, single/multi-family homes, and commercial projects. In addition to testifying in deposition, trial, and arbitration Mr. Kabo has prepared a voluminous amount of "real world" cost estimates and detailed written reports specific to the project and location. He is a licensed and certified general contractor, cost estimator, and construction

manager. He stays active and current by meeting with contractors, suppliers, vendors, and continuing education requirements. He is currently serving on the board of directors of the American Society of Professional Estimators as certification chair.



#### Jennifer C. Kalvestran, Esq., Partner Gust Rosenfeld, PLC, Los Angeles, CA

Jennifer Kalvestran is a partner at Gust Rosenfeld's Los Angeles office. Her practice is focused on insurance coverage analysis, bad faith, and litigation. She counsels insurers on a broad range of coverage issues falling under primary and excess policies, with a focus on long-tail liabilities and other general liability, pollution liability, and professional liability coverage matters. She also counsels and otherwise represents insurers as to the "bad faith" issues arising from these coverage disputes. With over 20 years of experience, Jennifer is involved in all aspects of litigation, including trial practice, mediations,

and depositions, and she brings a practical perspective to planning and executing these dispute resolution and litigation strategies. She has successfully represented clients in numerous matters on appeal before the California Appellate Court and Ninth Circuit. Jennifer is a member of the American Bar Association's Tort Trial and Insurance Practice section. She is also a member of CLM, and as past President its Los Angeles chapter, she now serves as a Regional Chair. Jennifer is admitted to practice in California, Nevada, Colorado, Arizona and Minnesota.



# Keith D. Koeller, Esq., Mediator, Arbitrator, Referee and Special Master JAMS, Irvine, CA

Keith D. Koeller, Esq., has joined JAMS as a full-time mediator, arbitrator, referee and special master. As a founding partner of Koeller, Nebeker, Carlson & Haluck, LLP, he has litigated, tried, arbitrated and mediated a multitude of complex commercial and residential construction defect, construction claims, government liability, insurance coverage, catastrophic personal injury and wrongful death cases. In 2009, Mr. Koeller was the recipient of the prestigious Jerrold S. Oliver Award of Excellence, for his outstanding contribution to the construction community, presented at the West Coast Casualty Conference. Additionally, he was recognized with the Larry Syhre Commitment to Service Award in 2003. Mr. Koeller

is AV Preeminent rated, a Southern California Super Lawyer, 2009 - 2021 and has been a featured speaker at numerous seminars on various construction topics.

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#### Cheryl L. Kozdrey, Esq. Associate Saxe Doernberger & Vita, P.C., Temecula, CA

Cheryl L. Kozdrey, Esq. is an Associate at Saxe Doernberger & Vita, P.C., a national insurance coverage law firm dedicated exclusively to policyholder representation and advocacy. Cheryl advises insurance brokers, risk managers, and construction industry professionals regarding optimal risk transfer strategies and insurance solutions, including key considerations for Builder's Risk, Commercial General Liability, D&O, and Commercial Property policies. She assists clients with initial policy reviews, as well as renewals and modification(s) of existing policies to ensure coverage needs are satisfied. Cheryl also represents policyholders throughout the claims process, and in coverage dispute litigation against insurance carriers.

She is currently working on some of the largest construction defect cases in the country. Cheryl is a published author and is admitted to practice in the State of California and all federal district courts within the State.



#### Hon. Sue Kurita, Judge County Court at Law #6, El Paso, TX

Judge M. Sue Kurita is the presiding judge of El Paso County Court at Law Number Six since its creation in 1998. Judge Kurita has served on the boards of Judicial Section of the State Bar of Texas, and on the National Association of Women Judges. She was elected Vice-President of the National Association for Women Judges and also served as the Chair for the New Judges Program for NAWJ. In 2010, the Texas Supreme Court appointed Judge Kurita to the State Commission for Judicial Conduct, where served as Vice-Chair from 2013-2015. In 2014, the Texas Supreme Court appointed Judge Kurita to the 9 member Grievance Oversight Committee and is presently the Vice-Chair. She serves on the State Bar of Texas standing committee on Administration of Rules of Evidence. Judge Kurita was named the 2018 Outstanding

Jurist by the El Paso Bar Association. Judge Kurita was named the 2015 Outstanding Jurist by the American Board of Trial Advocates. Judge Kurita is a Clinical Professor of Business Law at the University of Texas-El Paso; Adjunct Professor at Park University and Excelsior College. She was named 2015 outstanding faculty member by Excelsior College. Judge Kurita received the 2013 Daniel H. Benson Public Service Award from The Texas Tech University School of Law Alumni Association. Judge Kurita is committed to furthering legal and judicial education. She is serving on the Texas Center for the Judiciary Curriculum Committee and is a frequent speaker at seminars including the National College on Judicial Conduct and Ethics. Judge Kurita is a graduate of the University of Texas at El Paso (BA); Webster University; and Texas Tech University School of Law. Additionally, Judge Kurita is also a graduate of the Defense Language Institute completing the Modern Greek Language Course. Judge Kurita has received certification in Criminal Law and Civil Law from the Texas Center for the Judiciary, Judicial College. Judge Kurita is certified by Mediators Without Borders, as a mediator and arbitrator. Judge Kurita is one of the 100 women featured in JoAnne Gordon's recently published book "100 Happy Women at Work". Judge Kurita has received the City of El Paso Conquistador Award; and was named a Woman Trailblazer by the El Paso Bar Association.



#### Barbara Laskaris-Lorigan, Vice President and Head of Claims Golden State Claims Adjusters, Carlsbad, CA

Barbara Laskaris-Lorigan has held various risk and claims management positions in the construction and insurance industries and is currently the Vice President and Head of Claims for Golden State Claims Adjusters headquartered in Carlsbad, California. Ms. Laskaris-Lorigan was previously an Assistant Vice President for the Construction Defect Specialty Unit at Arch Insurance; a Construction Claims Manager and Large Loss Specialist at Gallagher Bassett Services; the Regional Manager of Claims, Contracts and Credit for SelectBuild, a subsidiary of Building Materials Holding Corporation; Southwestern Regional Team

Manager for construction defect claims for Zurich North America; and the Construction Liability Claim Manager for the former Arrowhead Claims organization. Ms. Laskaris-Lorigan has over twenty-six years of experience in the construction defect industry, including investigations, complex claims handling, and management of losses throughout the United States, and has lectured before various legal and trade organizations. Ms. Laskaris-Lorigan is currently the President of the San Diego Chapter of CLM. In her spare time, she enjoys running and has captained a relay race team that has raised over \$110,000 for Taking Control of Your Diabetes, a charity that promotes education for those suffering from diabetes.



#### Larry D. Letofsky, Esq., Partner Letofsky McClain, San Diego, CA

Mr. Letofsky handles construction defect claims, coverage, employment and personal injury claims. He has tried Superior Court and Judicial Reference cases successfully to verdict. He has arbitrated and mediated hundreds of matters while providing professional, effective and efficient representation using litigation plans and strategies for cost effective resolution of cases. He is a graduate of California Western School of Law, San Diego, California where he received his Juris Doctor in May 1986 and he received his undergraduate Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting degree from the University of Northern Colorado. He is a member

of the San Diego Chapter of the CLM, San Diego Defense Lawyers where he was Vice-President in 1997, a member of the San Diego County Bar Association, the Defense Research Institute as well as the Southern California Defense Lawyers Association.



# Steve Lokus, AVP, Global Specialty Construction Casualty Claims Navigators, a brand of The Hartford, Irvine, CA

Mr. Lokus is the Assistant Vice President, Construction Claims for Primary Casualty / Excess claims division, which handles all of the construction claims within Global Specialty nationwide. He has handled and managed various claims including large commercial general liability claims on a primary and excess layer, including claims within large SIRs and wrap policies with a focus on coverage, liability, risk transfer and litigation management for over 20 years. Prior to Hartford, Mr. Lokus was a Claims Supervisor at Fireman's Fund Insurance Company and Branch Manager for West Coast Casualty Service, Inc. He has been a speaker at several seminars, including, but not limited to: West Coast Casualty Construction Defect Seminar, CLM

Annual, CLM Construction Seminar, Perrin Conferences, DRI and IRMI. He acted as the secretary of the Construction Defect Claim Managers Association, is an instructor of IRMI's Risk Management Boot Camp, is a member of the CLM Construction Claims Advisory Board, is co-chair for the Perrin Conference's National Construction Defect conference and is the co-Dean (as well as an instructor) for the CLM Claims College - School of Construction.



#### Geoffrey Lutz, Esq., Partner Resnick & Louis, P.C., Miami FL

Geoffrey Lutz is a Partner in the Miami office of Resnick & Louis, P.C. who practices in the areas of construction defect litigation, premises liability, automobile liability, first party property litigation, coverage, bad faith, subrogation, public entity defense, bodily injury defense, real estate, and other complex litigation. Geoffrey has handled massive multiparty litigation cases concerning complex litigation matters from construction defect to mass tort product liability. He has represented individuals and companies of various sizes. Geoffrey swam and attended the Bolles School locally in Jacksonville. He then attended Yale

University where he was a varsity swimmer. Finally, he attended The Levin School of Law at University of Florida, from where he graduated Cum Laude. Geoffrey is licensed to practice law in all Florida state courts, the U.S. District Court of Florida for the Middle District and the Northern District.



#### Joseph R. Miele, Jr. Esq., Partner Kaufman, Dolowich & Voluck, LLP, Ft Lauderdale, FL

For over 30 years, Joseph R. Miele, Jr. has dedicated his practice to the representation of insurers in a variety of complex insurance coverage and claim handling disputes under a multitude of different insurance programs. He has particular expertise in Construction Defect, First Party (including severe weather events, Cyber-risk and infectious disease), Environmental Contamination and Toxic-Torts. Mr. Miele has handled hundreds of coverage and claim handling matters individually and as regional counsel in State and Federal

Courts at the trial court level and on appeal. He has litigated or provided coverage evaluations in the majority of States throughout the Country. Mr. Miele frequently lectures and counsels insurers and third-party administrators on insurance coverage law and proper claim handling practices. Originally from New Jersey, Mr. Miele practiced in his home state and in New York for 10 years prior to admission to the Florida Bar in 2000. He began his career as a Home Office Supervisor with a division of AIG overseeing complex claims nationwide. While there, Mr. Miele gained considerable knowledge of the insurance industry and experience in the claim handling and resolution process which has proven invaluable throughout his professional career.



#### Craig S. Meredith, Esq. Attorney + Mediator Craig Meredith Mediation, Mill Valley, CA

Craig S. Meredith, Esq. spent 24 years as a coverage attorney representing insureds and claimants and mediating cases that either directly or tangentially involved coverage issues. From 2010 to 2016 he was at JAMS as a mediator specializing in insurance coverage cases on a national level. He now mediates cases as a sole practitioner. In his capacity as an attorney, he assisted clients in presenting claims to insurance carriers and in negotiating with carriers for the amicable resolution on those claims. He was very successful in that arena, and became widely known in the carrier community as one who can resolve claims without the need for litigation. Mr. Meredith has expertise in virtually all of the commercial lines, including but not

limited to CGL, umbrella and excess, professional liability, property, builders risk, environmental and directors and officers coverage. He is well known for his expertise in all aspects of construction coverage, including OCIP's and other wrap programs, warranty programs and contractor default insurance.



# Phyllis Modlin, Executive Claims Specialist Markel, San Diego, CA

Phyllis Modlin is an Executive Claims Specialist with Markel. Ms. Modlin received her B.A. degree from University of California at Santa Barbara and her J.D. degree from University of California, Hastings College of the Law. She handles complex third-party casualty and construction claims under primary, excess and wrap policies in the west, mid-south, and southeastern states. Ms. Modlin is responsible for all aspects of claims handling, including damages, liability, coverage, reserving, risk transfer, auditing, litigation management, expense control measures and claims resolution.



#### James J. Orland, Esq., Founding Partner Orland Law Group APC, El Segundo, CA

James J. Orland is a founding partner of Orland Law Group APC, a California civil litigation and trial firm located in El Segundo, CA. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from College of the Holy Cross in 1989. He earned his Juris Doctorate degree from Loyola Law School 1992. He was admitted to the California Bar in 1992 and is a member in good standing. He was admitted to the Utah Bar in 2017 and is a member in good standing. Mr. Orland's primary areas of practice involve construction defect litigation, catastrophic injury, wrongful death, products liability, general negligence, and business litigation matters. He has represented developers, general contractors, architects, engineers, various subcontractor trades and has

successfully tried to verdict and litigated numerous complex claims across the State of California. He has been a Conference Chair, Panel Member, and Moderator at numerous national civil litigation and construction defect conferences, including West Coast Casualty, The Council on Litigation Management (CLM) Annual, the VEADR conference, and the annual Perrin National Construction Defect Conference. The events have been attended by judges, attorneys, contractors, and claims adjusters from Florida, California, South Carolina, Oregon, Arizona, and Nevada. He regularly presents accredited seminars to clients on current events addressing construction defects, complex litigation strategies, and claims adjuster ethics. Mr. Orland is a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates (A.B.O.T.A). He is also currently a member of Themis Advocates Group, The American Bar Associate, and The CLM. He is admitted to practice law throughout California and Utah in both State and Federal courts and is admitted to practice law in the United States Claims court. He is also recognized as a Super Lawyer.



#### Scott D. Rembold, Esq. Founding Partner Rembold Hirschman, Miami, West Palm Beach, Orlando, and Naples, FL

Scott D. Rembold is a founding partner of Rembold Hirschman, an insurance, construction, and business litigation firm with offices in Miami, West Palm Beach, Orlando, and Naples, Florida. Mr. Rembold focuses his practice primarily on the construction industry, representing contractors and subcontractors both directly and through their insurers as assigned defense counsel. Mr. Rembold and his firm also have extensive experience handling general liability claims on behalf of insureds, as well as defending first party property claims and complex commercial litigation matters. Mr. Rembold has also served as outside general counsel for the South Florida Associated General Contractors and the American Society of Professional Estimators.



# **Brett Reuter, Senior Claims Examiner Arch Insurance Company**

Brett Reuter is a Senior Claims Examiner at Arch Insurance who handles all types of commercial and residential construction defect losses under primary and excess commercial general liability policies, including OCIP/CCIP policies, with TPA oversight responsibilities for claims registered to Homebuilders policies.



# Karen Rice, Vice President - Head of Construction Claims, North America AXA XL, Los Angeles, CA

Karen Rice is the Head of Construction Claims, North America, for AXA XL out of Los Angeles, CA. She supports several business units, including Construction, Excess Casualty, and Surplus Lines. Prior to joining XL in 2011 she was the National Construction Defect Claim Manager for OneBeacon Insurance (OBI), and the AVP of National Construction Defect claims and Western States ACE Risk Management claims with ACE USA. Ms. Rice has sat on the DRI Construction Law Steering Committee for the past several years, and is on the Construction Advisory Board for CLM. She is also on the advisory board for ALFA International Construction Committee and has been a frequent lecturer at various Construction and

Insurance Law seminars throughout the country. She is also the past Chair of the West Coast Casualty Construction Defect Conference Speakers and Topics Committee. Ms. Rice earned her Bachelors degree from University of California at Santa Barbara and her Masters in Business Administration from the University of LaVerne.



#### James E. Rogers, Presiding Judge King County Superior Court, Seattle WA

Judge James E. (Jim) Rogers serves on the King County Superior Court in Seattle, Washington, currently as the Presiding (head administrative) Judge. He has presided over many trials since taking the bench in 2005, including construction defect and insurance coverage cases. He has been Presiding Judge during the pandemic as King County Superior Court has gone "virtual" since July 2020, the court holding more than 625+ trials to date. He has presided over virtual civil jury trials, as has many of his colleagues. He was awarded Judge of the Year by the Seattle ABOTA chapter in 2019. Judge Rogers earned his degrees from the University of Washington and Georgetown Law, was a federal law clerk for District Court Judge

Robert J. Bryan, practiced law in Seattle at the Riddell Williams/Fox Rothschild firm, and was a county criminal prosecutor. He and his extended family cheer for the Huskies, the Seahawks, the Irish, and they are Eternal Blue Forever Green.



#### Rick Seely, Esq., KAHANA FELD, San Diego, CA

Rick Seely is an Attorney in Kahana & Feld's construction, general liability, and insurance defense practice groups. Mr. Seely has 27 years of experience representing clients mainly in business litigation, construction defect litigation, and general insurance defense matters. He has handled numerous matters from initial case introduction through trial. Mr. Seely also regularly presents and moderates continuing education panels for organizations such as The CLM, West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar, and the OCBA. His topics range from the basics of subrogation claims; the analysis of indemnification clauses; construction litigation trends; and his favorite: civility among lawyers. In his time away from the office, Rick runs, surfs,

camps, and hikes: all of which are a distant second behind spending time with his wife and children. Rick is a graduate of Loyola of Los Angeles Law School (Juris Doctor) and received his undergraduate degree at the University of California, Riverside (Bachelor of Arts in Political Science). He is admitted to courts in California, U.S. District Court, Central District of California, U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal.



#### Kevin Stineman, Esq., Chief Claims Officer Hannover Re Services USA

Kevin Stineman, Esq. is a Chief Claims Officer for Hannover Re Services USA, Inc. and has nearly three decades of experience in insurance claims adjudication, claims litigation and claims operational management in the P&C insurance industry. He is admitted before the bars in California and Arizona and is a member of the American Bar Association. Kevin provides oversight of the TPAs, claims reserving practices, and overseeing claims legal defense and coverage panels.



#### Hon. Peter B. Swann, Vice Chief Judge Arizona Court of Appeals, Phoenix, AZ

Honorable Peter B. Swann was appointed to the Arizona Court of Appeals in 2008, and currently serves as Vice Chief Judge. From 2003-2008 he was a judge of the Maricopa County Superior Court, where he served in the Civil and Family Departments. From 2006-2008, he served as Associate Civil Presiding Judge and helped develop the court's electronic filing system. As an attorney in private practice in Phoenix at Steptoe & Johnson, LLP, he represented clients in commercial and constitutional litigation and commercial transactions. Judge Swann received his law degree from University of Maryland Law School, where he graduated first in his class in 1991. After serving as a law clerk to the Hon. Norman P. Ramsey in the United States District Court for the District of Maryland, he became a member of the State Bar of Arizona, receiving

the highest score on the Arizona bar exam. He served six years on the Ethics Committee of the State Bar of Arizona, has served for the past 10 years on the Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure and now serves on its Professionalism Committee. In 2013 and 2014, Judge Swann served on a committee tasked with rewriting the Arizona Rules of Civil Appellate Procedure, and in 2015 and 2016 served on the Supreme Court's Civil Rules Restyling Task Force. In 2016 and 2017, he served on the Supreme Court's Civil Justice Reform Comission. In 2008, Judge Swann was named "Judge of the Year" by the Phoenix Chapter of the Arizona Board of Trial Advocates. In 2016, Judge Swann was named "Judge of the Year" by the Arizona Supreme Court. Judge Swann frequently serves as a mediator in both appellate and trial court matters.



#### John Toohey, Esq., Partner Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara, LLP,

John H. Toohey is a Partner for Bremer Whyte Brown & O'Meara, LLP. Mr. Toohey is an A.V. Preeminent rated attorney with a practice that is focused on contract negotiation and litigation, complex product liability, and construction. He has successfully represented hundreds of clients in alternative dispute resolution and trial, including multiple cases to jury verdict. Mr. Toohey is admitted to practice in the State of California, the State of Arizona, the State of Colorado and the State of Texas. Mr. Toohey was recently recognized by Los Angeles Magazine as one of the "Top Attorneys in Southern California". He has been selected into the 2017-2020 "Lawyers of Distinction", and selected to the 2017- 2021 California Super Lawyers list. John

Toohey was selected as a 2019 California Litigator of the Year by The American Institute of Trial Lawyers.



#### Monte 'Joe' Vaughn, Owner Operator Skyris Imaging, LLC, Portland OR

Joe Vaughn is a LEED Accredited Professional, Certified Thermographer and Commercial Real Estate veteran with over 25 years of asset management experience. Vaughn began his career in facility management with the 1995 commissioning of the \$262 million Rose Quarter sports and entertainment complex in Portland, OR. From there he went on to direct several development initiatives for the Paul Allen family of companies. He was instrumental in projects including but not limited to the Portland Trail Blazers Practice Facility, Seahawks Stadium and Exhibition Center, facility remodels and various mixed-use projects through

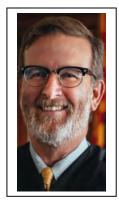
2004. In the mid 2000's Vaughn served as VP of Property Management with Pacific Real Estate Management Group and was responsible for the management of over a dozen high-rise towers making up one of the world's largest and earliest portfolios of LEED Certified buildings. Vaughn is currently the owner operator of Skyris Imaging, LLC (dba skyris.com). Founded in 2012, skyris.com is a technical imaging company that provides customizable forensic imaging and analysis solutions for the built environment. Skyris' primary objective is to provide high-quality actionable data to asset managers and decision makers. Methods involve the use of several existing and emerging remote sensing technologies.



#### Tracy Yaun, Esq. Partner Goodman McGuffey LLP, Atlanta GA

Tracy Yaun is a partner in Goodman McGuffey LLP's Atlanta office. Her practice concentrates on general civil litigation, insurance defense litigation and insurance coverage matters. Tracy has extensive experience in the areas of construction defect, construction liability, premises liability, and coverage matters. Prior to joining the firm, she spent over a decade working for insurance carriers in several

capacities including claims management, litigation management, coverage counsel, staff counsel and in-house counsel. Tracy is active in The CLM (Claims and Litigation Management Alliance) where she serves on the Construction Advisory Board. She is also active in RISE (Rising Insurance Start Executives), DRI, the Atlanta Bar Association and the CPCU Society. Tracy is a frequent presenter at industry conferences and is dedicated to mentoring young professionals. Tracy was honored as a 2020 Emerging Leader from the APCIA and was also the recipient of the 2014 IAIP Region III Claim Professional of the Year Award. She completed CLM's Litigation Management Institute program in 2018 earning her CLMP designation. Tracy is also an alumna of Zurich Insurance's Global Associate program. Tracy graduated from Emory University School of Law where she was a member of the Moot Court Society. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Tufts University.



#### Hon. Christopher T. Whitten, Judge Superior Court of Arizona, Phoenix, AZ.

Hon. Christopher T. Whitten is a general jurisdiction trial court judge on the Superior Court of Arizona. Before his appointment to the bench in 2006, he was a trial lawyer for fifteen years. He was (and remains) a member of the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) and was certified by the Arizona State Bar as a specialist in injury and wrongful death litigation. As a Judge on the Superior Court of Arizona, he has presided over civil, commercial, criminal, family, tax and juvenile cases. Judge Whitten has taught as an adjunct professor at several law schools, including Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University, Louisiana State University School of Law, The University of San Diego School of Law and Emory University School of Law. He regularly works with the National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA), both nationally and internationally, receiving the Hon. Robert E. Keeton Award for outstanding service in 2017. He has trained fellow judges and lawyers throughout

Mexico as they work to reform their judicial process, with Solicitors in Ireland to improve their advocacy skills as their rights of appearance have expanded, with lawyers in Myanmar (Burma) on the important role of advocacy skills in their emerging democracy, with Judges in Egypt on developing skills to combat human trafficking, with lawyers in Guam and Saipan to expand their trial skills, with law professors in Japan on effectively teaching trial advocacy to law students, and throughout the United States on taking effective depositions and improving trial skills. Judge Whitten is the past Chair of the American Bar Association's National Conference of State Trial Judges and a past member of the ABA House of Delegates. Away from the bench, he has enjoyed serving his community as a board member and officer for numerous organizations, including the Arizona Foundation for Blind Children, the University of San Diego School of Law Alumni Board, the Arizona School for the Arts, the Recreational Association of Madison Meadows and Simis and the Brophy Lacrosse Club. In 2010 Judge Whitten and his sons were part of a team that successfully led a group of thirteen blind hikers on a marathon twenty-four mile, one-day trek from rim to rim across the Grand Canyon.

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#### Bruce Wick, Director of Risk Management Housing Contractors of California, Sacramento, CA

Bruce Wick is currently Director of Risk Management for the Housing Contractors of California. Mr. Wick has over 30 years of risk management experience, and is an industry leader and educator on issues critical to the construction industry. He also participates in a number of committees and conferences regarding Cal/OSHA, Worker's Compensation, Labor Law, and construction defect issues. CALPASC is also a leader in improving the enforcement arena in construction. Mr. Wick also participates as staff to HCC's Government Affairs committee. Mr. Wick served from 2009 through 2018 as one of two public employer appointees on the

WCIRB Governing Committee.

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For information on participating as a sponsor or vendor, please contact David Stern

818 735 3595 Ext. 112 - davestern@westcoastcasualty.com

# We've come home to Orange County

After careful consideration of choosing this year's charity for our seminar, we decided that we will be providing support to



https://capoc.org/oc-food-bank

This worthy charity is named as the 2022 beneficiary for our own charity raising efforts for

- The Jerrold Oliver Award of Excellence (The "Ollie")
  - Tennis Shoe Thursday and Flip Flop Friday
  - Buy A Banner, Support A Charity, Lift A Life

As we always have, we look to support those whose goals are similar to our own in that they exists to meet human needs wherever, whenever, and however they can.

The OC Food Bank, a program of Community Action Partnership of Orange County, unites communities to end hunger and malnutrition by partnering with more than 300 local charities, soup kitchens and community organizations. Through donated food, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) commodities and purchased food, and the generous support of individuals we are able to support nonprofit agencies in Orange County serving low-income families and individuals. In a typical year, the food bank distributes more than 23 million pounds of food. In June 2020, we have increased the pounds of food distributed by 59% compared to this time last year. The OC Food Bank partnered with Power of One Foundation to set up weekly mass drive-thru distributions. In August 2020 we acknowledged serving 1 million people affected by the economic downturn caused by COVID-19 and we anticipate the need will continue to grow.

By enlisting all those in the construction defect community through their own individual sponsorships, corporate sponsorship as well as our own we can make a difference.

### Won't you consider joining this effort?

Need further sponsorship or participation details? Call Me 818 735 3595 Ext 122

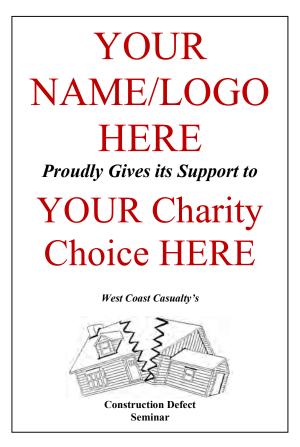
Or write to me at davestern@westcoastcasualty.com

and I'll be glad to provide you with details regarding participation and/or sponsorship opportunities

# The 23<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Celebration

### Buy a Banner . . . . Support a Charity . . . . Lift a Life . . . .

As in the past 22 West Coast Casualty Construction Defect Seminars, those wishing to receive recognition for the support of West Coast Casualty's Charity Program may purchase a banner to hang in the halls of the seminar event. The banner will acknowledge the name of the sponsor as well as the charity itself. The "Buy a Banner, Support a Charity" program is tax deductible(\*) and sponsors of this program will be recognized in the seminar handout.





https://capoc.org/oc-food-bank

Help feed someone today so you can be part of the Magic for 2022



The 23<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Celebration

Of

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# Be Part of the Magic for 2022

No matter who you donate the banner to or who it is named for, the results are that the proceeds will go to a worthy cause in the name of someone you knew or someone who touched your heart.

# Please consider this year's charity beneficiary when making your decision

Please contact me to participate in this worthwhile cause. I'll always be available to take your calls, answer any questions and offer any assistance.

Holly Sepian, CPA Chief Financial Officer
West Coast Casualty Service, Inc.
516 Pennsfield Place # 208, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
Tel. 818 735 3595, Ext 108 - Fax. 818 735 3596
hollysepian@westcoastcasualty.com

#### Banner Orders due by Friday April 8, 2022

<sup>(\*)</sup> In order to receive tax deductible status, you should check with the charity and your financial planner to determine if you are eligible to take a tax deductible contribution in accordance with the tax law as established under the Internal Revenue Service Code and/or your state tax bureau.

For our 2022 seminar, we're be bringing back our famed, fun and beloved fundraising event,

# Tennis Shoe Thursday



Accompanied by another highly requested event specifically selected by our attendees,

# Flip Flop Friday



(Sandals are O.K. too)

You can be part of this great fun fundraising effort as an individual and/or organization participation at this event. This year, we proudly support the



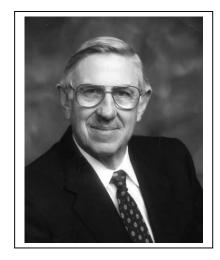
https://capoc.org/oc-food-bank

The Orange County Food Bank has worked to end hunger in Orange County and distributed the equivalent of more than 1 billion meals across the Orange County community. The Food Bank provides food to more than 300,000 clients on a monthly basis and distributed 70 million pounds of food in 2021 to children, seniors, working families, veterans, and other neighbors in need. To support the vision that no one goes hungry, food and products are distributed through a network of numerous partner agencies directly to children and seniors each month and to working families and college students too through these tough times.

As an individual, come and be comfortable, as its \$25.00 a day or **BOTH** days for \$40.00. Just bring a check payable to Community Action Partnership and turn it in at the charity booth located in our continuing education area.

Need further sponsorship or participation details? Write to <u>davestern@westcoastcasualty.com</u> and we'll be glad to provide you with details regarding participation and/or sponsorship.

# Consider participating because someone who's hungry is depending on <u>YOU!</u>



#### The Jerrold S. Oliver Award of Excellence

Each year, West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar recognizes an individual who is outstanding or has contributed to the betterment of the construction defect community. This person is recognized at the seminar and receives a plaque citing his or her achievement. This award has been named after the late Judge Jerrold S. Oliver who was truly a "founding father" in the alternate resolution process in construction defect claims and litigation. His loyalty and commitment to this community were beyond mere words as he was a true believer in the process of resolution. The award, affectionately referred to as the "Ollie" is presented each year at our seminar to someone who has invoked the same spirit of commitment, loyalty and trust for the betterment of the entire construction defect community. Each year we ask all the members of the construction defect community to nominate those who they feel invoke the same spirit as Judge Oliver. We then narrow it down, by simple majority to the four

Hon. Jerrold S. Oliver (1934 - 1996)

Along with the recognition of the award is a donation in the winner's name to Habitat for Humanity

# Whether you're coming to the seminar ... or not! We're Counting on You!!!



Kenneth A. Bloom, Esq. Gartner + Bloom, PC.



Adrienne D. Cohen, Esq. Law Offices of Adrienne D. Cohen



Dan Ducommun MC Consultants



Steve Lokus Navigators Insurance Co.

#### Cast your vote by mail, fax, e-mail or on our website by clicking here

<u>https://westcoastcasualty.com/seminar/ollie-award-voting/</u>
Please take a moment of your busy day to help us select who is deserving of this year's "Ollie"

)

You can vote regardless of whether or not you are coming to the seminar Please return by Friday April 8, 2022 by mail, fax or e-mail or on our website

West Coast Casualty Service, Inc. 516 Pennsfield Place # 208, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360 Tel. 818 735 3595 - Fax. 818 735 3596 - E-mail: <a href="mailto:claims@westcoastcasualty.com">claims@westcoastcasualty.com</a>

Thanks for helping select this year's "Ollie"

# West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar

# The Legend of an Era Award



"Legend" - One that inspires or achieves legendary fame based upon one's own achievement(s) which promises to be enduring.

"Era" - A fixed point of time from which a series of years is reckoned and an order of things prevail.

The Legend of an Era Award is the newest in the series of awards created to recognize those in the construction defect community who inspire, contribute, advocate and influence others for the benefit and betterment of this community, making it a better place. Candidates for this award will be chosen by those who sit on West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar's Speakers and Topics Committee for that year's event.

Along with the recognition of the Legend of an Era award is a donation in the winner's name to the 2022 designated charity of West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar.

# West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar has selected the world renowned

# **Disneyland Hotel**

to be our seminar site and official hotel



Attendees requiring overnight accommodations may take advantage of West Coast Casualty's special seminar rates of:



Disney's Grand Californian Hotel® & Spa \$289.00 per night



Disneyland Hotel®

\$274.00 per night



Disney's Paradise Pier® Hotel

\$249.00 per night

(Standard Room Single-Quad occupancy rates apply)

#### Make your room reservation now!

A limited number of rooms are reserved at this rate for the time period of May 8, 2022 through May 14, 2022. To secure a room please contact the Disneyland® Resort by booking online 24/7 at:

https://mydisneygroup.com/gdwe22a

or by calling (714) 520-5005, M-F from 8 am to 5 pm PST.

Reservations must be made by or before Friday April 8, 2022, or when the group rooms are sold out, so do not delay. Prevailing rates may apply after this date or when the group rooms are sold out, whichever occurs first. Rooms are subject to availability.

Group Room Rates are subject to applicable State and local City of Anaheim occupancy taxes

# Coming for the education? Stay for the fun!!!

(or bring the kids down after the seminar and save a few dollars also)



You can use this link to order Disney tickets ahead of time at the Convention Rate:

#### https://mydisneygroup.com/gdwe22a

to purchase specially priced Disneyland® Resort Theme Park tickets (\*)

These special ticket prices are not available once you arrive at the Resort.

Don't delay! . . . . Prices are subject to change without notice.

Please note the current requirements for Theme Park Entry; To enter one of the parks, each Guest is required to have a theme park reservation in addition to a valid ticket for the same park on the same date. Reservations are limited and subject to availability, restrictions, and change or cancellation at any time.

# Once on the Disney website, be sure to fully follow all instructions to make your stay and those of your guests an enjoyable one

(\*) These specially priced tickets are intended only for guests that are participating in this event. Only the registered attendee is allowed to purchase tickets from this discounted ticket store link, and they can purchase up to 6 tickets maximum. Disney reserves the right to contact the ticket purchaser to request event registration confirmation. If Disney discovers that the purchaser of the ticket is not participating or attending this event it will be considered a misuse of this offer and ticket, and the ticket(s) will be blocked and will not be eligible for a refund. In addition, these tickets cannot be purchased for the purpose of being resold.

#### West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar Travel Requirements Provided by

#### **Frosch Classic Travel**

Frosch Classic Travel has been selected as the official travel agency for West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar for May 2022. Frosch is a full service travel organization headquartered in Woodland Hills, California. Our large single location allows us to offer all the sophisticated services available to this industry, while maintaining attention to the smallest detail. We excel at providing quality service and quality control. Frosch's strong presence in the airline industry has given us the relationships and strong negotiating power necessary to guarantee the lowest possible rates for our clients.

Please complete the form below, fax and/or mail to **Frosch** at (818) 346-1492. You may also call Liz Kramer at 818-936-2000 or email your request to <u>Liz.Kramer@Frosch.com</u>

Full Name(s) as it appe			
1	<del> </del>	2	
Home Address: (Billing address) Company Name:			
Street:			
City:		State	_Zip
<b>Preferred Travel Itiner</b>	ary:		
Departing from		On	, 2022
Departure time:(Approximate)			
Preferred Airline Carrier:	American □	Southwest	United □
Return travel date on May	, 2022	Departure time	2:
<b>Seating Preference</b> : Aisle □	Window □ Cen	ter  Comments:	(Approximate)
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Form of Payment: Check Enclosed			
Credit Card Information: ☐ Vis Credit Card #		-	
Cardholder's Full Name (please p Signature:	orint)		

Ground Transportation for West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar for 2022 provided by

#### **Element Transportation Group**

PO Box 11688 Burbank, CA 91510 Toll Free. 855.768.9001 Tel. 818. 768 9001

jim4element@gmail.com

www.elementtransportation.com

Ground Transportation for the Intelligent Traveler

# West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar

#### An Important Special Announcement for those seeking CPE credits From the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA)

For those seeking CPE credits from the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA), please note the following:

It remains our goal that the following learning objective be met as a result of the presentation of this seminar:

At the conclusion of the program participants should be able to put to practical use the study materials combined with the verbal issues demonstrated by the speakers and/or presenters regarding Management Advisory Services, Business Management and Organization and Regulatory Ethics.

Distinguish through practical application, the use of actual financial method versus the use of actuarial method and how it impacts risk management.

The ability to recognize the application of risk management and how it relates to your client's particular branding of business.

The ability to realize the proper use of self-insured retentions and what financial exposure will result versus the traditional role of insurance

Prerequisites: For courses	identified with an (*	the following pro	erequisites must	be met
		N/A		

Advanced preparation; for all advance preparation regarding those identified with an (\*) above, please visit <a href="https://www.westcoastcasualty.com">www.westcoastcasualty.com</a>

This program has been designed to be an Intermediate Level/Update/Overview course offering and its delivery method will be Group Live

#### You may earn up to 10.0 CPE Credits for attending this seminar

West Coast Casualty Service, Inc. is registered with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) as a sponsor of continuing professional education on the National Registry of CPE Sponsors. State boards of accountancy have final authority on the acceptance of individual courses for CPE credit. Complaints regarding registered sponsors may be addressed to the National Registry of CPE Sponsors, 150 Fourth Avenue North, Suite 700, Nashville, TN, 37219-2417. Web site: www.nasba.org

A full refund will be provided to those who request same up to fifteen (15) days prior to the first day of the seminar. There will be no refunds within fifteen (15) days of the first day of the seminar and for more information regarding administrative policies such as complaint and refund, please contact our offices at 1-818-735-3595 or by e-mail <a href="mailto:cdseminar@westcoastcasualty.com">cdseminar@westcoastcasualty.com</a>

National Registry of CPE Sponsor identification number: 108987

# A Special Note about Continuing Education Credits for 2019 and Beyond

All across the country, Insurance Departments and State Bars are changing their rules regarding granting of continuing education credits. Most of this has to do with fees and reporting requirements. Many states no longer offer reciprocal credits for their licensees and require West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar to apply separately to each individual state. We continue to follow these changes but West Coast Casualty can no longer guarantee approval of any reciprocal credits since we never know when a state will change its rules as each state has its own requirements. While we report all continuing education credit updates on our website, <a href="http://www.westcoastcasualty.com/seminar/continuing-education/">http://www.westcoastcasualty.com/seminar/continuing-education/</a> it remains the duty and responsibility of the attendee to determine if their state has approved reciprocal credits for our event.

#### MCLE / CLE Credits

West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar has applied for MCLE credits from approximately 20 State Bars. No guarantee of credits is implied as each state has its own requirements. Credit updates are reported on our website:

http://www.westcoastcasualty.com/seminar/continuing-education/

#### CPCU and RPA CE

West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar has applied for CE credits from the Society of CPCU and the Registered Professional Adjusters (RPA) program. No guarantee of credits is implied as each organization has its own requirements. Credit updates are reported on our website: <a href="http://www.westcoastcasualty.com/seminar/continuing-education/">http://www.westcoastcasualty.com/seminar/continuing-education/</a>

#### Insurance Department Continuing Education Credits (CE)

West Coast Casualty's Construction Defect Seminar has applied for continuing education credits from 34 different State Insurance Departments requiring continuing education for adjusters, agents and brokers and No guarantee of credits is implied as each state has its own requirements. (Various state insurance departments require us to inform all interested parties that an application for CE credits does not guarantee approval which is subject to the various insurance departments rules, guidelines and regulations). Credit updates are reported on our website:

http://www.westcoastcasualty.com/seminar/continuing-education/

#### Refunds

A full refund will be provided to those who request same up to fifteen (15) days prior to the first day of the seminar. There will be no refunds within fifteen (15) days of the first day of the seminar.

#### Handicap Accessibility

West Coast Casualty encourages and seeks participation from all members of the physically challenged community. In that regard, West Coast Casualty will only agree to hold its events at sites and locations that meet or exceed the minimum requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Title 21 of the California Administrative Code. Please contact West Coast Casualty for any special needs or requirements.

#### Cancellation

West Coast Casualty assumes no liability in the event a speaker is unable to attend and reserves the right to replace any speaker at West Coast Casualty's sole discretion.

#### Disclaimer

The views and opinions expressed at our seminars and/or in its articles and publications are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of any organization or company including West Coast Casualty Service. They are only to be interpreted in a general nature and not to apply to any specific case, claim or situation. Examples of analysis discussed at our events are only examples in a general nature. They should not be utilized or quoted in any specific real-world analytic as they are based only on very limited and general source information. Assumptions made by anyone about the analysis of any particular discussion are not reflective or bound of the position of any company and/or organization of employees presenting at our events.

#### SEMINAR REGISTRATION PAGE

We've made it easier for you!!!

# Register on-line by credit card or check (\*) Save Time!! Register On-Line!! Click Here:

**Register Online:** <a href="https://westcoastcasualty.regfox.com/west-coast-casualtys-construction-defect-seminar-2022">https://westcoastcasualty.regfox.com/west-coast-casualtys-construction-defect-seminar-2022</a>

**Register By Check:** <a href="https://westcoastcasualty.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2022-WCCS-CDS-PayByCheck.pdf">https://westcoastcasualty.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2022-WCCS-CDS-PayByCheck.pdf</a>

Individual Registration(s) \$649.00 Per Person if registered by Friday April 8, 2022

<u>Or</u>

\$699.00 Per Person if registered after Friday April 8, 2022

Luncheon tables may be reserved for groups of 10 guests per table and sponsor gets its name on reserved table at lunch. To obtain table(s), register 10 or more individuals and send your table list to:

Hollysepian@westcoastcasualty.com







Friday, May 6, 2022 will be the last day to pre-register, otherwise registration will be conducted on site, space permitting.

# (\*) All Inquiries, Questions and Checks Should Be Sent To:

West Coast Casualty Service, Inc.
516 Pennsfield Place, Suite 208 - Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
Tel. 818 735 3595 - Fax 805 306 1825
E-mail: cdseminar@westcoastcasualty.com

All reservations accepted on a first come, first served basis ssswww.westcossastcasualty.com