

IN-HOUSE SPEAKERS INCLUDING

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INSURANCE COVERAGE AND PRACTICE SYMPOSIUM

DECEMBER 15-16, 2011
SHERATON NEW YORK
HOTEL & TOWERS
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

REASONS TO ATTEND

Keep up-to-date on the most recent insurance coverage issues and trends

Learn practice tips from skilled practitioners regarding the handling of first- and third-party claims, both in and outside of litigation

Enjoy presentations providing unique perspectives on case handling from judges and policyholders' counsel

Network nationally with peers and clients, while earning CLE credit and enjoying the holiday season in New York City

DRI DELIVERS RESOURCES TO BUILD YOUR PRACTICE

DRI's Insurance Coverage and Practice
Symposium offers an unparalleled opportunity to
hear from a distinguished faculty of lawyers,
insurance industry leaders and judges on emerging
issues, recent court rulings, and national claims
trends, as well as practical advice for both the first- and
third-party practitioner and claims professional. This
program will help you sharpen the tools you need to
litigate and navigate a wide range of insurance coverage
claims and issues successfully, while networking with
senior claims executives, industry leaders and
experienced coverage lawyers from across the country.
What is more, you will experience all of this in the midst
of New York City, fully decked out for the holiday season!



Matthew S. Foy Program Chair



Beth Zaro GreenProgram Co-Vice Chair



Audrey A. Seeley
Program Co-Vice Chair



Anthony R. Zelle Committee Chair



Michael F. Aylward

Presented by DRI's Insurance Law Committee

Program Schedule	3
General Information	6
Faculty Biographies	7
Seminar Sponsors	10
2011/2012 Seminar Schedule	10
Membership Application	11
Registration Form	12

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

- Practical advice and case law updates from claims professionals and leading coverage lawyers from around the country
- Recent developments and national trends impacting first- and third-party coverage issues
- Practice tips for successfully using experts in insurance coverage litigation
- The latest on an excess insurer's "drop down" defense and indemnity obligations
- Emerging claims and issues impacting personal and advertising injury coverage and directors' and officers' liability coverage
- Strategies for handling insurance-related class actions and for litigating the confessed judgment case
- A policyholder's perspective on common mistakes made by insurers and their counsel
- How to handle a first-party claim effectively when litigation has been filed

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2011

6:00 p.m. Registration

6:00 p.m. Networking Reception

Sponsored by Clausen Miller PC

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2011

Internet Café

Sponsored by WestlawNext

7:00 a.m. **Registration**

7:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast

Sponsored by Roux Associates Inc.

7:00 a.m. First-Time Attendees Breakfast

8:00 a.m. Welcome and Introduction

Michael F. Aylward, *Morrison Mahoney LLP*, Boston, Massachusetts

Anthony R. Zelle, Zelle McDonough & Cohen

LLP, Boston, Massachusetts

Matthew S. Foy, Gordon & Rees LLP, San Francisco, California

8:15 a.m. Beyond the Hudson River: Top 10 Practice Tips for Handling Coverage Issues Nationally

Handling claims on a national basis can present unexpected pitfalls for claims personnel and coverage counsel alike. The "roadmap" for handling a claim can differ significantly from one jurisdiction to the next, given the diverse rules, procedures and anomalies of applicable state law. Even anticipating which state's laws apply presents difficulties. From responding to a tender, to retaining counsel to defend the insured, to filing and litigating a declaratory relief action. the substantive and procedural laws can differ substantially from state to state. This session presents a national coverage litigator's perspective on the top 10 issues and tips for handling coverage cases around the country.

Michael M. Marick, *Meckler Bulger Tilson Marick & Pearson LLP*, Chicago, Illinois

9:15 a.m. It's a "Wrap." Or Is It? Fundamentals and Emerging Issues Regarding Construction Claim Insurance

Once touted as the perfect solution to the problem of multiple overlapping coverages in complex construction projects, so-called wrapup or owner controlled insurance policies have created their own unique set of problems. This session will cover the fundamentals of wrap-up insurance, its intended purpose and purported benefits. It will explore emerging issues created by wrap-up insurance, including defense obligations to certificate holders and additional insureds, subrogation, indemnity, other insurance and employer liability.

Meryl R. Lieberman, *Traub Lieberman Straus & Shrewsberry LLP*, Hawthorne, New York

10:00 a.m. Refreshment Break

10:15 a.m. Slippery Slopes and Slaloms: Emerging Claims and Coverage B

Increasingly, policyholders and claimants are seeking CGL coverage for commercial disputes, including intellectual property, false advertising and product disparagement claims. This session will discuss emerging legal issues, claims and trends under Coverage B, including whether false advertising and product disparagement claims are covered under CGL policies, potential coverage for "green washing" and green certification claims, Internet advertising, cyberoffenses and how various jurisdictions handle these coverage issues.

Verne A. Pedro, *Goldberg Segalla LLP*, Princeton, New Jersey

11:00 a.m. Mean Streets and Icy Potholes: Pitfalls in Adjusting and Defending the Litigious First-Party Claim

First-party insurers and their lawyers face a particularly difficult set of issues in attempting to investigate and adjust claims that are already in suit. Do statutory claims handling guidelines apply or are they trumped by civil procedure and discovery rules? Are communications between counsel and adjuster confidential or may they be discovered under various theories? What about the insurer's obligation to continue the investigation in good faith after it has been sued? Mr. Clark will review the issues that can arise when an unresolved insurance claim moves into litigation and provide practical advice for avoiding the landmines.

Ronald J. Clark, *Bullivant Houser Bailey PC*, Portland, Oregon

11:45 a.m. **Lunch** (on your own)

1:00 p.m. Gangs of New York: The Insurer's Strategy for Defending Class Action Suits

Class action suits against insurers for coverage and claims handling practices are on the rise. Despite passage of the Class Action Fairness Act years ago, jurisdictional issues may still maroon many of these disputes in problematic jurisdictions. Ms. Eisenstein will overview the insurance coverage class actions filed in recent years and strategies for defending them, including removal to federal court, demanding appraisal or arbitration where provided for in the insurance policy, phasing discovery, *Daubert* motions, early motions to strike class certification and conducting evidentiary hearings.

Marci A. Eisenstein, Schiff Hardin LLP, Chicago, Illinois

2:00 p.m. Deck the Halls: The Excess Insurer Is Coming to the Party! Excess Insurer's Rights and Obligations in Long-Tail Claims

Umbrella and excess insurers are increasingly being called upon to undertake the defense of or accept coverage for diverse types of claims, even when underlying insurance may not be fully exhausted. This session will address the most recent cases from across the country regarding "drop down" claims in the event of insolvent or nonpaying underlying insurers, the scope of "follow form" obligations, the continued viability of "horizontal exhaustion," and the ability of excess insurers to dispute exhaustion. It will also explore whether defending primary insurers owe a duty of care to excess insurers, and what remedies may be available to an excess insurer when the primary has taken actions that seek to accelerate the excess insurer's obligations or are otherwise contrary to the excess insurer's interests.

Devin C. Maddox, *Tressler LLP*, Chicago, Illinois

3:00 p.m. **Refreshment Break**

3:15 p.m. He's a Keen One, Mr. Grinch: A Policyholder's Perspective on Common Mistakes Made by Insurers and Their Counsel

The co-chair of Anderson Kill & Olick's insurance recovery group will afford a unique opportunity to hear a policyholder counsel's perspective regarding the most prevalent mistakes and miscalculations made by insurers and their counsel. This session will cover what policyholders like to see when they are trying to maximize coverage.

William G. Passannante, *Anderson Kill & Olick PC*, New York, New York

4:05 p.m. Frosty Relations: What You Always Wanted to Know About Reinsurance, but Were Told Never to Ask

This session will explore the evolving interrelationship between ceding casualty insurance and assuming casualty reinsurance markets. How do decisions made by cedents impact their reinsurers? Why will lessons from the past inform the future and shape the reinsurance industry over the next decade?

Ronald R. Robinson, *Berkes Crane Robinson & Seal LLP*, Los Angeles, California

Leah A. Spivey, *Munich Reinsurance America*, Princeton, New Jersey

Peter Thomas, *Willis Re*, McLeansville, North Carolina

5:00 p.m. Insurance Law Committee Meeting

(open to all)

6:00 p.m. Networking Reception

Sponsored by RGL Forensics

7:30 p.m. Dine-Arounds

Join colleagues and friends at selected restaurants for dinner (on your own).

More details on-site.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2011

Internet Café

Sponsored by WestlawNext

7:00 a.m. **Registration**

7:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast

Sponsored by Jeff Kichaven, Mediator

8:00 a.m. Announcements

Matthew S. Foy, Gordon & Rees LLP, San Francisco, California

8:05 a.m. Holiday Cheer: The Successful Use of Experts in Insurance Coverage Litigation

Experts are increasingly being used in insurance coverage litigation to testify about policy interpretation, drafting history and compliance with claims handling guidelines. When is expert testimony allowed? What kinds of experts should be considered? How do you properly qualify—or challenge—experts before and during trial? This session will overview strategy and the myriad evidentiary issues arising out of the use of experts in insurance coverage litigation.

Asim K. Desai, *Carlson Calladine & Peterson LLP*, Los Angeles, California

9:00 a.m. Following the Money: The Evolution of D&O Claims and Coverage Issues

The nature of litigation and claims against directors and officers continues to evolve. Insider trading and M&A-related liabilities persist, but emerging claims resulting from Sarbanes-Oxley, Dodd Frank and the UK Bribery Act raise new issues for the D&O liability insurer and its counsel. This session will examine the duty to defend, scope of the duty to indemnify, and the duty to settle, in the context of evolving directors' and officers' claims.

F. Lane Finch, Jr., *Hand Arendall LLC*, Birmingham, Alabama

Priya Cherian Huskins, *Woodruff-Sawyer & Co.*, San Francisco, California

10:00 a.m. Refreshment Break

Sponsored by Hurwitz & Fine PC

10:15 a.m. You Better Watch Out, You Better Not Cry: A Judicial Review of Insurance Disputes and Litigation

The Honorable Jerome B. Abrams and the Honorable Patricia J. Kerrigan will discuss emerging insurance coverage issues and decisions from their jurisdictions over the past year. They will also reflect on their involvement with state civil justice reform and afford invaluable insight regarding decorum before the court and the trial and appeal of an insurance coverage case.

Moderator

Audrey A. Seeley, *Hurwitz & Fine PC*, Buffalo, New York

Panel

The Honorable Jerome B. Abrams, First Judicial District Court, Shakopee, Minnesota

The Honorable Patricia J. Korrigan, 190th

The Honorable Patricia J. Kerrigan, 190th Judicial District Court, Houston, Texas

11:00 a.m. Auld Lang Syne: Insurance Coverage Claims and Issues That Shaped 2011

This moderated panel discussion will address the property and casualty coverage decisions and claims that defined the past year and may shape litigation in the years to come.

Moderator

Anthony R. Zelle, *Zelle McDonough & Cohen LLP*, Boston, Massachusetts

Panel

Raymond T. DeMeo, *Ironshore Inc.*, Simsbury, Connecticut

Andrew Nadolna, *Chartis Claims Inc.*, New York, New York

11:45 a.m. Litigating the Confessed Judgment Coverage Case: There May Be a Diamond in That Lump of Coal

With increasing frequency, coverage issues are being litigated against the backdrop of massive confessed judgments. Mr. Spevacek will explore the unique issues and tactics presented in handling the confessed judgment case, including a multi-jurisdictional discussion of the validity of confessed judgments, the defenses available to the insurer beyond the lack of coverage, practice tips for litigating the confessed judgment case and strategies for attacking the confessed judgment itself.

Charles E. Spevacek, *Meagher & Geer PLLP*, Minneapolis, Minnesota

12:30 p.m. The Elf in the Room: Ethical Conundrums

These panelists will engage in a review and discussion of the frequently encountered ethical issues faced by the insurer and defense counsel. Topics will include defense counsel's candor towards the mediator and opposing counsel during mediation, the obligations of defense counsel toward the insurance carrier paying for the defense, the ethics of defense counsel serving as the insured's coverage counsel and what to do when a lawyer who was averse to your client joins your firm.

Dean Constantine, *Chartis Claims Inc.*, New York, New York

Donald J. Verfurth, *Gordon & Rees LLP*, Seattle, Washington

1:30 p.m. Adjourn

GENERAL INFORMATION

CLE ACCREDITATION

This seminar has been approved for MCLE credit by the State Bar of California in the amount of 12 hours, including 1 hour of ethics credit. Accreditation has been requested from every state with mandatory continuing legal education (CLE) requirements. Certificates of attendance will be provided to each attendee. Attendees are responsible for obtaining CLE credits from their respective states. Adjuster credit has been applied for in several states. Credit availability and requirements vary from state to state; please check our website at www.dri.org for credit information for your state.

REGISTRATION

The registration fee is **\$745** for members and those who join DRI when registering and **\$975** for nonmembers. The registration fee includes CD-ROM course materials, continental breakfasts, refreshment breaks and networking receptions. If you wish to have your name appear on the registration list distributed at the conference and receive the course materials in advance, DRI must receive your registration by **November 25, 2011** (please allow 10 days for processing). Registrations received after **November 25, 2011**, will be processed on-site.

IN-HOUSE COUNSEL

In-house counsel are eligible for free registration to DRI seminars. In-house counsel are defined as licensed attorneys, who are employed exclusively by a corporation or other private sector organization, for the purpose of providing legal representation and counsel only to that corporation, its affiliates and subsidiaries. In order to qualify for free registration, the individual must also be a DRI member and a member of DRI's Corporate Counsel Committee. Offer excludes DRI Annual Meeting.

SPECIAL DISCOUNTS

The first and second registrations from the same firm or company are subject to the fees outlined above. The registration fee for additional registrants from the same firm or company is **\$695**, regardless of membership status. All registrations must be received at the same time to receive the discount.

REFUND POLICY

The registration fee is fully refundable for cancellations received on or before **November 25, 2011.** Cancellations received after **November 25** and on or before **December 2, 2011.** will receive a refund, less a \$50 processing fee. Cancellations made after **December 2** will not receive a refund, but the course materials on CD-ROM and a \$100 certificate good for any DRI seminar within the next 12 months will be issued. All cancellations and

requests for refunds must be made in writing. Fax to DRI's Accounting Department at 312.795.0747. All refunds will be mailed within four weeks after the date of the conference. Substitutions may be made at any time without charge and must be submitted in writing.

COURSE MATERIALS

DRI will email a link to download the course materials to all registrants two weeks in advance of the seminar. The CD will be included in the registration packet onsite. You can order additional copies by checking the appropriate box on the registration form on the back of this brochure or ordering online at www.dri.org.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Recommended supplemental material for this seminar is *Insurance Bad Faith–2010*. Order your copy by checking the appropriate box on the registration form on the back of this brochure. You can also view the entire list of DRI publications offerings and make purchases online at **www.dri.org**.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

A limited number of discounted hotel rooms have been made available at the Sheraton New York Hotel & Towers, 811 7th Avenue on 53rd Street, New York, New York 10019. For reservations, contact the hotel directly at 212.581.1000. Please mention the DRI Seminar to take advantage of the group rate of \$399 Single/Double. The hotel block is limited and rooms and rates are available on a first-come, first-served basis. You must make reservations by November 15, 2011, to be eligible for the group rate. Requests for reservations made after November 15 are subject to room and rate availability.

TRAVEL DISCOUNTS

DRI offers discounted meeting fares on various major air carriers for **DRI's Insurance Coverage and Practice Symposium** attendees. To receive these discounts, please contact Hobson Travel Ltd., DRI's official travel provider, at 800.538.7464. As always, to obtain the lowest available fares, early booking is recommended.

FLYERS

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See your attendee packet on-site for information on these sponsors.

The taping or recording of DRI seminars is prohibited without the written permission of DRI.

Speakers and times may be subject to last-minute changes.

DRI policy provides there will be no group functions sponsored by others in connection with its seminars.

FACULTY

The Honorable Jerome B. Abrams is a First Judicial District Court judge for the state of Minnesota. Judge Abrams is a member of the Minnesota Supreme Court Civil Justice Reform Task Force and serves on the board of directors for the Minnesota District Judges Association. He is also an adjunct associate professor of law at the University of Minnesota, teaching complex litigation. Prior to his judicial appointment, Judge Abrams practiced in the areas of insurance coverage and bad faith, product liability, environmental and professional liability, and complex commercial litigation.

Michael F. Aylward is a senior partner in the Boston office of Morrison Mahoney LLP, where he chairs the firm's complex insurance coverage practice group. For the past 30 years, Mr. Aylward has represented insurers around the country in disputes with their policyholders, including bad faith, intellectual property disputes, environmental and mass tort claims, and construction defect litigation. He has also testified as an expert in cases involving coverage and reinsurance issues. Mr. Aylward is a past chair of DRI's Insurance Law Committee and presently serves as vice chair of its Law Institute.

Ronald J. Clark is a partner with Bullivant Houser Bailey PC, splitting his time between the offices in Seattle, Washington, and Portland, Oregon. Mr. Clark's practice over the past 23 years has focused on insurance coverage litigation involving first-party and third-party claims. He has defended multiple insurance bad faith cases in the western United States and is a frequent author and lecturer on insurance and litigation topics. Mr. Clark is an active member of DRI, the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel and the International Association of Defense Counsel.

Dean Constantine, Vice President of Directors & Officers Claims for Financial Lines Claims in New York City, a division of Chartis Claims Inc., has been with Chartis for 11 years. He is currently the manager of the D&O Mainstream Claims Department, which adjusts claims made on employment, directors & officers, not-for-profit and financial institutions insurance products. Mr. Constantine also has served as vice president of litigation management and panel counsel. Prior to Chartis, he practiced insurance defense law and engineering.

Raymond T. DeMeo, Assistant Vice President, Property Claims at Ironshore Inc. in Simsbury, Connecticut, is responsible for the management of all first-party property claims. Previously an assistant vice president for property claims at Travelers Insurance, Mr. DeMeo supervised the World Trade Center property litigation and oversaw other

high exposure litigation, including claims arising out of Hurricane Katrina. He also worked as senior counsel and assistant vice president in the life and disability group at the Hartford.

Asim K. Desai is a partner with Carlson Calladine & Peterson LLP in Los Angeles. Mr. Desai's bad faith litigation and trial experience includes analyzing, interpreting and enforcing first- and third-party policy provisions. He is often retained as associate or substitute trial counsel on the eve of trial in multi-million dollar exposure cases and serves as a regional litigation and trial troubleshooter for one of the nation's largest property and casualty insurers.

Marci A. Eisenstein is a partner in the Chicago office of Schiff Hardin LLP and co-leader of the firm's insurance and class action practice groups. Ms. Eisenstein concentrates her practice on the defense of class action litigation and has litigated more than 50 consumer-based class action challenges in federal and state courts throughout the country.

F. Lane Finch, Jr., is a member of Hand Arendall LLC in its Birmingham, Alabama, office. He has advised on insurance coverage, defended bad faith claims and litigated first-party and third-party claims in Alabama and California for 22 years. Mr. Finch is recognized by "Super Lawyers" and has handled insurance coverage claims involving up to \$500 million, as well as class action and other liability claims exceeding \$100 million. He has authored numerous articles on insurance coverage and bad faith issues.

Matthew S. Foy is a partner in the San Francisco office of Gordon & Rees LLP. Mr. Foy represents insurers nationally on issues involving primary and excess general liability policies, with an emphasis on mass tort, Coverage B, environmental and construction defect claims. He also counsels clients on first- and third-party coverage issues, claims administration and policy drafting. Mr. Foy is a frequent speaker and author on insurance-related issues. He currently serves as the publications chair for DRI's Insurance Law Committee and is the program chair for this seminar.

Beth Zaro Green is the senior vice president and managing attorney of the Litigation Management E&O and Coverage Counsel Department for Chartis Insurance in New York. Her firm, Law Offices of Beth Zaro Green, is responsible for managing extra-contractual litigation against Chartis member companies nationwide. The firm also directly litigates coverage matters in New York and New Jersey on behalf of Chartis. Previously, Ms. Green was a trial attorney representing both insurance companies and insureds in New York and New Jersey. She is the program co-vice chair for this seminar.

Priya Cherian Huskins, Senior Vice President at Woodruff-Sawyer & Co. in San Francisco, is a recognized expert in D&O liability risk and its mitigation. In addition to consulting on D&O insurance matters, Ms. Huskins counsels clients on corporate governance, including ways to reduce exposure to shareholder lawsuits and regulatory investigations. She is a frequent speaker nationally and internationally on D&O issues and a regular guest lecturer at Stanford's Directors' College. Prior to joining Woodruff-Sawyer in 2003, Ms. Huskins practiced corporate and securities law.

The Honorable Patricia J. Kerrigan presides over the 190th District Court in Harris County, Texas. She was recently invited to participate in the Advanced Science and Technology Adjudication Resource, a federal program to develop resource judges for complex litigation. Previously, she was a founding partner of Werner Kerrigan & Ayers LLP in Houston. Judge Kerrigan is a past DRI board member and secretary-treasurer. She is a former president of the Texas Association of Defense Counsel and the Association of Defense Trial Attorneys, and is a member of ABOTA. She is a senior fellow of the American Leadership Forum.

Meryl R. Lieberman, a founding partner of Traub Lieberman Straus & Shrewsberry LLP in Hawthorne, New York, heads the firm's casualty insurance practice. She specializes in all aspects of casualty liability insurance, including counseling and litigation. For close to 30 years, Ms. Lieberman has litigated high-profile coverage disputes involving general liability, environmental and toxic torts, product liability, employment liability and bad faith issues, representing domestic and international insurers. She is a member of DRI, the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel and the Association of Professional Insurance Women.

Devin C. Maddox is a senior associate in the Chicago office of Tressler LLP, where she advises insurance clients nationally on issues involving complex insurance coverage disputes, reinsurance and employment law. She serves as national coverage counsel and analyzes insurance and reinsurance contracts, underwriting intent and case law to advise clients proactively on minimizing exposure and risks of litigation. Ms. Maddox also provides counseling and litigation services to clients involving all aspects of employment, ranging from breach of contract to discrimination claims.

Michael M. Marick is a founding partner of Meckler Bulger Tilson Marick & Pearson LLP, a Chicago-based firm with offices in Dallas, Phoenix and San Francisco. His nationwide practice focuses exclusively on insurance coverage

counseling and litigation. He is a frequent author and speaker on insurance-related topics, and for many years taught insurance law at the law school level. Mr. Marick has been selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* and *Euromoney's Guide to the World's Leading Insurance and Reinsurance Lawyers*. He is the vice chair of DRI's Insurance Law Committee.

Andrew Nadolna, Executive Vice President of P&C Severity Claims for Chartis Claims Inc., residing in New York City, has responsibility for asbestos and environmental claims, along with health care professional liability and excess workers' compensation matters. Mr. Nadolna has been with Chartis and its predecessors for 13 years and has handled most types of general liability claims. Previously, he was an attorney handling defense and coverage matters for a variety of insurance clients.

William G. Passannante is the co-chair of Anderson Kill & Olick PC's insurance recovery group in New York City. He has represented corporate and individual policyholders in litigation and trial in precedent-setting cases. His policyholder-only practice includes all areas of insurance recovery, and his clients include financial institutions, manufacturers, technology companies and service providers. Mr. Passannante has been ranked by *Chambers USA* as a leading policyholder attorney in New York and nationally. He served as vice chair of the Professionals' Officers' and Directors' Liability Committee of the ABA.

Verne A. Pedro is special counsel in Goldberg Segalla LLP's Princeton, New Jersey, office. His practice focuses on complex insurance coverage disputes, commercial litigation and product liability litigation. Mr. Pedro has a diverse litigation background and has handled insurance matters and rendered coverage opinions in various disciplines, including additional insured and priority of coverage, construction defect, first-party property, environmental, advertising injury, professional liability, directors' and officer's liability and bodily injury cases.

Ronald R. Robinson, founder and executive partner of Berkes Crane Robinson & Seal LLP in Los Angeles, has a national insurance underwriting and coverage law practice. In 2010, the firm was ranked as one of the 24 Best Tier One insurance law firms in America by U.S. News & World Report. Mr. Robinson is a member of the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel and chair of DRI's Subcommittee on the Terrorism Risk Insurance Acts of 2005 and 2007. He is a former member of DRI's Law Institute and former chair of DRI's Insurance Law Committee.

Audrey A. Seeley, attorney with Hurwitz & Fine PC in Buffalo, New York, focuses her practice in insurance coverage, no-fault coverage, arbitration, litigation and municipal liability and counseling. Ms. Seeley is listed among the *Who's Who in Law* and as one of the Top 40 Under Forty by *Buffalo Business First* newspaper. Ms. Seeley is the program co-vice chair for this seminar. She is the marketing chair and a steering committee member of DRI's Insurance Law Committee.

Charles E. Spevacek, a partner in the Minneapolis law firm of Meagher & Geer PLLP, specializes in litigating complex insurance coverage disputes, including breach of contract, declaratory judgment and bad faith actions. He was selected for inclusion in the insurance law and mass tort litigation sections of *Best Lawyers in America*. Mr. Spevacek has been named a Minnesota Top 100 "Super Lawyer" and a Top 10 Appellate Law "Super Lawyer." In 2006, *Minnesota Lawyer* selected him as one of its 15 "Attorneys of the Year," for successfully representing insurers in coverage litigation involving junk fax claims under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act.

Leah A. Spivey, Senior Vice President and head of Environmental Mass Tort Claims at Munich Reinsurance America in Princeton, New Jersey, currently serves on the board of directors of the Association of Insurance and Reinsurance Runoff Companies and co-chairs its Publication Committee. A member of the New York Chapter of the Association of Professional Insurance Women, Ms. Spivey speaks and presents papers each year at the Reinsurance Association of America's Claims Seminar, as well as other insurance and reinsurance industry conferences. She holds a CPCU designation.

Peter Thomas, Chief Risk Officer of Willis Re in McLeansville, North Carolina, has 36 years of insurance and reinsurance management, underwriting, broking, risk assessment, contract drafting and claims management experience. His management expertise includes executive level positions with a focus on production, strategic planning, business operations, information technology, human resources and marketing. Mr. Thomas is the co-chair of the HB Insurance and Reinsurance Litigation and Insolvency Roundtable and a regular lecturer for the Reinsurance Association of America on a range of reinsurance technical topics.

Donald J. Verfurth is a co-managing partner of the Seattle office of Gordon & Rees LLP. Since entering private practice, Mr. Verfurth focuses his practice on insurance coverage, with emphasis on environmental, product liability, professional liability, directors and officers, excess casualty, ERISA and construction issues. He represents major insurance carriers both in litigation and non-litigation matters. He has tried numerous jury and nonjury cases in both state and federal court in Washington, Oregon and Idaho, and argued appeals in the appellate courts of Washington and the Ninth Circuit.

Anthony R. Zelle, the founder of Zelle McDonough & Cohen LLP in Boston and New York City, represents insurers in complex coverage and bad faith litigation. Mr. Zelle is the chair of DRI's Insurance Law Committee and a past chair of DRI's Bad Faith and Extra-Contractual Claims Subcommittee. Mr. Zelle compiled and edited DRI's Insurance Bad Faith compendium. In addition to his DRI involvement, he has served the insurance industry for more than a decade as a member of the faculty of the National Forum for Property Loss Professionals.



DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION IN DRI:

A STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLE

DRI is the largest international membership organization of attorneys defending the interests of business and individuals in civil litigation. Diversity is a core value at DRI. Indeed, diversity is fundamental to the success of the organization, and we seek out and embrace the innumerable benefits and contributions that the perspectives, backgrounds, cultures and life experiences a diverse membership provides. Inclusiveness is the chief means to increase the diversity of DRI's membership and leadership positions. DRI's members and potential leaders are often also members and leaders of other defense organizations. Accordingly, DRI encourages all national, state and local defense organizations to promote diversity and inclusion in their membership and leadership.

SEMINAR SPONSORS

DRI wishes to thank our sponsors for their support at this year's seminar!

















2011 SEMINAR SCHEDULE

September 15–16 **Nursing Home/ALF Litigation**Boston Marriott Copley Place, Boston, MA

September 15–16 Strictly Automotive
The Dearborn Inn, A Marriott Hotel,
Dearborn. MI

September 22–23 **Construction Law** *JW Marriott Desert Ridge*, Phoenix, AZ

September 22–23 **Strictly Hospitality** *FireSky Resort*, Scottsdale, AZ

October 26–30 Annual Meeting

Washington Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, D.C.

November 10–11 **Asbestos Medicine** Bellagio, Las Vegas, NV

November 17–18 The Changing Landscape of International Litigation

Gallery Hotel, Barcelona, Spain

December 15–16 Insurance Coverage and Practice
Sheraton New York Hotel & Towers.

New York, NY

December 15–16 **Professional Liability**

Sheraton New York Hotel & Towers,

New York, NY

2012 SEMINAR SCHEDULE

February 2–3 Civil Rights and Governmental Tort

Liability

Eden Roc Renaissance, Miami Beach, FL

February 9–10 **Toxic Torts and Environmental Law**

Fontainebleau Miami, Miami Beach, FL

February 16–17 **Trucking Law**

The Westin Kierland. Phoenix. AZ

February 23–24 Sharing Success—A Seminar for

Women Lawyers

The Westin Kierland, Phoenix, AZ

March 7–9 Medical Liability and Health Care Law

Hilton New Orleans Riverside,

New Orleans, LA

March 14–16 Trial Tactics

Bally's, Las Vegas, NV

March 15–16 Rainmaking

April 25-27

Bally's, Las Vegas, NV

March 28–30 Insurance Coverage and Claims Institute

The Westin Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL

Life, Health, Disability and ERISA Claims

April 11–13 **Product Liability Conference**

The Venetian, Las Vegas, NV

Swissôtel Chicago, Chicago, IL

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