

INSURANCE COVERAGE ARBITRATOR



Paul J. Van Osselaer

Van Osselaer Dispute Resolution PLLC

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Insurance Coverage Arbitrations

Paul is a full-time coverage arbitrator and mediator, who has arbitrated cases in many jurisdictions applying several jurisdictions' laws. As a coverage arbitrator, he:

- Provides parties a neutral who understands the concepts well
- Assures the parties that positions are intelligently questioned when it counts
- Assures the parties of a useful, reasoned decision based on the evidence and law

Coverage Arbitrator Experience

Although never seeking a listing with an arbitration service, Paul's practice has included service as umpire-chair of AAA-administered and JAMS-administered cases and a party-appointed arbitrators in both AAA and JAMS arbitrations. He has also served as an arbitrator in non-administered ones in both the Chair and party-appointed roles.

Paul has served as a single arbitrator, a party-appointed one, and a chair or umpire and he has been appointed by "sides" in a coverage dispute with about equal frequency including ones where the dispute was between two insurers and ones where the dispute was between two policyholders. He has arbitrated disputes involving coverage laws of numerous states from coast to coast and involving a

ADR Recognition and Publications

Member, National Academy of Distinguished Neutrals (invitation-only)

Co-Chair, ADR Sub-Committee, ABA Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee

President (23-24), Distinguished Fellow, Int'l Academy of Mediators (invitation-only)

Listing, Who's Who Legal in Mediation (1 of only 105 in US) (invitation-only)

Advanced Training at AAA: "*Managing Dynamics of a Multi-Party Case*"

Trainer on coverage ADR to legal, ADR, policyholder and carrier groups, including:

- *Mediation or Arbitration: Picking Your Show*, ABA Ins. Cov. Lit. Cmte. (2014)

Other Honors and Experience

Best Lawyers in America® in both Insurance Law and Mediation

Tier 1 Best Law Firm® in Insurance Law, Van Osselaer Dispute Resolution

Super Lawyers® in both Insurance Coverage and in Alternative Dispute Resolution

Former Vice-Chair, ABA Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee

Former Member of Editorial Board, *Coverage* (ABA publication)

Tried coverage, indemnity & bad faith cases (both seeking & opposing coverage)

Significant experience arbitrating or mediating wide range of coverage disputes of all sizes involving many types of policies, including CGL, PL, D&O, excess, first-party, builders' risk, marine, event cancellation, entertainment, terrorism and specialty policies

Judicial temperament and efficiency, based on years of trial experience, service as an arbitrator, and service as court-appointed member of the Civil Justice Reform

Education and Pre-ADR Background

University of Texas (B.A., 1971; J.D. 1975; courses toward MBA)

Law Clerk, U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas, Houston (1975-77)

Paul's law practice included being partner in a premier Texas law firm and later his own small firm. As coverage lawyers discovered his mediation skills, a part-time coverage mediation practice and became full-time and arbitrations quickly followed, leading him to start Van Osselaer Dispute Resolution in January 2014.

Paul has been lead counsel in all Texas federal districts and in eight other districts across the U.S. Before trying his first coverage case in 1991, he was lead counsel in major business cases, including antitrust, securities, banking, tax, real estate & IP, earning a *Best Lawyers*® listing in Business Litigation from 1987-92. That experience still provides insight into issues underlying many coverage disputes.

Nationwide references from both sides of the docket or from co-arbitrators available upon request