

# 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 with a national practice. He has arbitrated coverage cases throughout the United States. As a coverage arbitrator:

- *he is a neutral, whether chair or party-appointed, who understands insurance*
- *gives parties confidence that positions are intelligently questioned when it counts*
- *provides 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 chair of both AAA-administered and JAMS-administered cases as well as a party-appointed arbitrator in both AAA and JAMS arbitrations. He has also served as both a chair and party-appointed in non-administered arbitrations. He has also served as a single arbitrator.

When party-appointed, he been appointed by "sides" of coverage disputes with about equal frequency. And he has served as an arbitrator for disputes solely among insurers and ones solely between policyholders. He has arbitrated disputes involving coverage laws of numerous jurisdictions, of all sizes and involving a wide range of policies and cutting-edge coverage issues.

## ADR Recognition and Publications

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

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

Past-President & 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:

## Other Honors and Experience

*Chambers-Ranked (Band 1)* in Insurance ADR

*Best Lawyers in America*<sup>®</sup> in both Insurance Law and Mediation

*Tier 1 Best Law Firm*<sup>®</sup> in Insurance Law, Van Osselaer Dispute Resolution

*Super Lawyers*<sup>®</sup> 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)

Significant experience as a neutral in a wide range of coverage disputes 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, a judicial clerkship, and being as court-appointed member of the Civil Justice Reform Act's Advisory Committee for the Western District of Texas

## 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 eight other districts across the U.S. Before trying his first coverage case in 1991 and becoming a coverage lawyer, he was lead counsel in major business cases, including antitrust, securities, banking, tax, real estate & IP, earning him a *Best Lawyers*<sup>®</sup> listing in Business Litigation as early as 1987. That experience still provides him insight into issues which underlie coverage disputes.

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