

INSURANCE COVERAGE MEDIATOR



Paul J. Van Osselaer

Van Osselaer Dispute Resolution PLLC

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Why A Coverage Mediator?

Coverage *attorneys* know the area well. So should the *mediator*.

Paul is a full-time coverage mediator and arbitrator, who has successfully mediated coverage cases of all sizes and types. In the U.S., he has mediated in-person coverage cases in over a dozen states and involving disputes in many more. He:

- Gets the issues, so you explore settlement instead of educating a mediator
- Gives you confidence that positions are intelligently asserted and challenged
- Uses experience as a seasoned mediator and coverage attorney

Mediation Recognition

President ('23-24)/Distinguished Fellow, International Academy of Mediators (*invitation-only*)

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

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

Advanced Mediation Training at AAA: “*Managing Dynamics of a Multi-Party Case*”

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

Author on effective strategies for mediating and settling coverage cases, including:

- *The Art of Mediation of Coverage Disputes* (The Brief, ABA TIPS Section) (2018)
- *Effective Strategies for Mediating Coverage Disputes* (Kluwer Int'l) (2014)

Frequent speaker on coverage mediations to legal, ADR, policyholder & carrier groups, including American Bar Association Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee, RIMS, DRI, State Bar of Texas, and the International Academy of Mediators

Insurance Coverage Recognition

Best Lawyers in America® in Insurance Law (current; yes, even as a mediator)

Tier 1 Best Law Firm® in Insurance Law (current, for his mediation firm))

Super Lawyers® Insurance Coverage, now ADR (current)

Former Vice-Chair, ABA Insurance Coverage Litigation Committee

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

Coverage Mediation Experience

Paul limits his mediation practice to insurance coverage disputes, including cases where those issues dominate in the background. He has mediated major coverage disputes around the country for the major coverage law practices and their clients and by court appointment. He has mediated disputes involving every type of insurance policy ranging from CGL, property, and D&O to specialty ones issued for product recall, terrorism and event cancellation. For example, he has served as the mediator in one of the largest US diocesan bankruptcy settlements with sexual abuse victims, a major rock band's insurance dispute arising out of cancellation of its European tour, a major hospital's business interruption hurricane loss claim, a D&O dispute involving a major league sports team and hundreds of other disputes of equal importance to parties and

Education and Pre-ADR Background

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

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

President, UT Law School Alumni Association (1991-92)

Paul's law practice included being partner in a premier Texas law firm, where he headed its insurance coverage practice and later his own small firm. As coverage lawyers around the country discovered his mediation skills, a part-time coverage mediation practice quickly became full-time, ultimately leading him to withdraw from his firm to start Van Osselaer Dispute Resolution PLLC in January 2014.

Prior to his mediation career, Paul had 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 in the country including antitrust, securities, banking, tax, real estate & IP, even earning a *Best Lawyers*® listing in Business Litigation from 1987-92. That experience still provides insight into issues in many coverage disputes.

Nationwide references from both sides of coverage docket available on request.