



2021 PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY AND MEDICAL LIABILITY ROUNDTABLE SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

David C. Anderson, Collins Einhorn Farrell, P.C., Southfield, MI USA

David is a shareholder of Collins Einhorn Farrell P.C. and has more than 23 years of litigation experience. He has successfully defended a wide variety of professional liability claims, ranging from legal malpractice to claims against accountants, insurance agents, architects and engineers, real estate/title agents, and even fine art appraisers. He has also successfully defended numerous corporations against product liability claims, including wrongful death cases. David serves as the IADC's Chair of the Professional Liability Committee. He has been named *Best Lawyers*® "Lawyer of the Year" in Metro Detroit for Professional Liability/Legal Malpractice in 2016, 2018, 2020, and 2021.

Reed R. Bates, Starnes Davis Florie LLP, Birmingham, AL USA

Reed is a partner at Starnes Davis Florie, LLP. His practice is devoted to civil litigation and strategic consultation with a special emphasis representing health care providers in litigation and regulatory matters. Reed earned his B.S. from University of Alabama and his J.D. from Cumberland School of Law. He serves on the legal committee for the American Health Care Association ("AHCA") and is former Chair of the Medical Defense and Health Law Committee of the IADC, past President of the Alabama Nursing Home Defense Lawyers Association, and has been selected for inclusion in the 2011 to 2021 editions of *Best Lawyers in America* in the field of Medical Malpractice. He has tried and arbitrated numerous complex cases to verdict and is a frequent speaker on healthcare related topics.

Deborah Bjers, Head of Small and Mid-Sized Lawyers Group, Swiss Re Corporate Solutions, Chicago, IL USA

Deborah is Head of the Small and Mid-Sized Lawyers group at Swiss Re Corporate Solutions and provides professional liability solutions for lawyers and law firms. Prior to her current position, she served as Risk Manager for the program, and provided onsite CLE seminars, risk management programs, newsletters, articles, and general risk management guidance.

Deborah is also a licensed attorney, and a former partner at a Chicago-based law firm where she handled cases with areas of practice including professional negligence, product liability, construction, civil rights, and catastrophic injury.

Upon leaving private practice, Deborah first worked in the claims department of a major specialty lines insurance carrier. She has extensive experience handling a variety of professional liability claim lines. Deborah has also conducted numerous internal and external claim audits, including at various London brokerage houses. Deborah has served as a customer service specialist and has facilitated seminars focused on listening and communication skills. Deborah is a graduate of Loyola University Chicago School of Law where she received her J.D. *cum laude*.



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Bill Bower, Senior Vice President, Director of Healthcare, Gallagher Bassett, Houston, TX USA

Bill is Gallagher Bassett's Senior Vice President, Healthcare on the Gallagher Bassett Specialty team. He directs and supports the growth of the claims function for the GB Healthcare practice area. He brings more than 30 years of experience in the legal, insurance, and healthcare industries.

Bill began his career as a practicing trial attorney in Chicago at the law firms of Pretzel & Stouffer and Johnson & Bell, defending hospitals and healthcare providers in medical liability claims. He then served as Vice President at CNA HealthPro where he was responsible for all medical liability, biomedical product, and pharmaceutical claims across the country. There, he established the CNA Centers of Excellence in the areas of neurologically impaired baby claims and long-term care litigation.

Most recently, Bill served as Senior Vice President, Administration and Chief Risk Executive for Northwestern Medicine in Chicago. At Northwestern, he had responsibility for leading claim operations, clinical risk management, corporate insurance, and system-wide key initiatives. He also served on the executive leadership committee, acted as President of Northwestern Memorial Insurance Company, and chaired various committees across the health system.

Kathleen V. Buck, Vice President – Claims, Minnesota Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company, Minneapolis, MN USA

Kathleen rejoined Minnesota Lawyers Mutual in 2019 as Vice President of Claims. She manages a team of experienced claim attorneys who specialize in handling complex lawyers professional liability lawsuits. Over the course of her career, Kathleen has held various senior positions as a supervising claim attorney, claim counsel, director, and state affairs analyst. She also served as coverage counsel. Kathleen is a frequent lecturer on topics of legal ethics, avoidance of legal malpractice, and enhancing civility in the profession.

Sybil L. Dunlop, Greene Espel PLLP, Minneapolis, MN USA

Sybil is a national thought leader on diversity, equity, and inclusion ("DEI"). She co-founded Greene Espel's DEI practice, which helps workplaces design and implement DEI strategies and programs to meet their goals. As part of this practice, Sybil offers award-winning DEI trainings which receive rave reviews from audiences around the country. Clients include Fortune 100 companies, cities, government institutions, bar associations, law firms, and non-profits. In recognition of her efforts, Minnesota Lawyer selected Sybil as one of its Diversity & Inclusion Honorees in 2018, and the Hennepin County Bar Association awarded her its Excellence Award for Advancing Diversity and Inclusion Award in 2019. Her most recent research, "Why the Legal Profession is the Nation's Least Diverse (And How to Fix It)," was published by the *Mitchell Hamline Law Review* this past January.

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Constance A. Endelicato, Wood Smith Henning & Berman, Los Angeles, CA USA

Constance is an accomplished trial lawyer with 30 years of litigation experience. She is a Certified Professional in Healthcare Risk Management and holds Advocate Ranking in American Board of Trial Advocates. She is the past Chair of the American Society for Health Care Risk Management's Education Development Task Force and a current member of the Chapter Leadership Task Force. She is also a Past President of Southern California Association For Healthcare Risk Management.

Constance has been recognized by *Best Lawyers in America* and was a recipient of the Business Insurance and CLM Women to Watch Award. Additionally, she has been named by *The Daily Journal* as one of the Top 100 Women Lawyers in California, by *Los Angeles Business Journal* as one of the Top 50 Most Influential Women Lawyers, and by *Los Angeles Magazine* as one of the Top Women Attorneys in Southern California. She received the Women's Influence & Power in Law Award for Lifetime Achievement and was recognized by *Los Angeles Business Journal's* Women's Council & Awards for outstanding achievement in philanthropy.

Constance is a member of the Medical Defense and Health Law Committee of IADC and has held the position of Vice Chair of Webinars and is the current Vice Chair of Newsletters. She was also nominated into membership of the Litigation Counsel of America. Constance has acted as the Medical Defense Committee Vice Chair of Webinars for Claims and Litigation Management Alliance and is the current Co-Chair of the Medical/Healthcare Committee.

W.M. Bains Fleming, III, Norman, Wood, Kendrick & Turner, Birmingham, AL USA

Bains Fleming is at home in the courtroom having tried more than 25 cases. He has a wide-ranging practice that includes the defense of medical malpractice claims, catastrophic person injury, and wrongful death claims along with toxic and mass tort litigation. He also handles product liability, premises liability, transportation, and construction litigation matters. Bains is a Martindale-Hubbell AV® Preeminent rated attorney. He has been consistently named to the *Super Lawyers*® list as a Mid-South Rising Star in the practice area of Personal Injury – Medical Malpractice Defense from 2016 to 2020. He was named in *B-Metro Magazine's* Rising Star Lawyers and Attorneys of Note in 2014. Bains is an active member of International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC) where he serves on a number of committees including the steering committee for the medical liability track of IADC's Professional Liability Roundtable. He is a graduate of the 41st Annual IADC Trial Academy.

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Ellen Harmon, Associate General Counsel, Global Medical Response, O'Fallon, MO USA

Ellen, JD, MBA, RN, joined Global Medical Response Inc. ("GMR") on November 1, 2012. GMR is the largest independent provider of air and ground medical transport services in the nation, operating through its subsidiaries which collaborate with leading hospital systems, governmental entities, businesses, medical centers, and EMS agencies to offer access to emergency medical care and disaster response. As Associate General Counsel for GMR, Ellen provides legal and strategic business advice to executives and top management on relevant corporate, medical-legal, compliance, employment, regulatory, risk mitigation issues, manages all forms of corporate litigation including professional liability, general liability, employment and labor relations, workers' compensation, cybersecurity, governmental investigations and citations, and environmental issues. In handling litigation matters, Ellen frequently participates in ADR and manages settlement negotiations.

Ellen's professional background includes serving as General Counsel for an emergency medical company and a chain of senior living communities, and Missouri Assistant Attorney General. Prior to becoming an attorney, Ellen was a nursing administrator for two major hospitals in the St. Louis area responsible for managing operations, strategic planning, budgets, and personnel throughout the organizations. Ellen received her Diploma of Nursing from Goldfarb School of Nursing at Barnes-Jewish College in St. Louis, Missouri; Bachelor of Science from Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, Illinois; Master of Business Administration from Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri; and Juris Doctor from St. Louis University Law School in St. Louis, Missouri. In her personal life, Ellen is an outdoors enthusiast and enjoys sailing, biking, and hiking with her family and friends. She is an amateur artist and dabbles in watercolor painting and mosaics.

Lori Worthington Hurl, Forsberg & Umlauf, P.S., Seattle, WA USA

Lori is a shareholder at Forsberg & Umlauf, P.S., in Seattle, Washington. She practices civil litigation defense, with an emphasis on professional liability. Lori has experience representing attorneys and accountants in malpractice claims and is a member of the Washington State Bar Association Disciplinary Board.

Lori has been recognized as a Super Lawyer and Rising Star by *Super Lawyers* magazine in Professional Liability Defense. She is also the current President of the Mother Attorney Mentoring Association of Seattle ("MAMA Seattle"), an organization designed to empower attorney mothers and encourage professional success while celebrating our roles as attorneys and mothers.



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Joel Koppenhoefer, Senior Care Claim Consultant, MedPro Group, Chicago, IL USA

Joel is a Senior Care Claim Consultant with MedPro Group, assigned to the special COVID-19 team. In this role, Joel is responsible for COVID-related claims in MedPro's Senior Care line of business in 36 states and the District of Columbia. Joel also manages all long-term care litigation and claims in the Chicagoland area. Prior to joining MedPro, Joel worked as a defense attorney in Chicago for several years.

Tara Nayak, Senior Claims Counsel, AXA XL, Chicago, IL USA

Tara is a Senior Claims Specialist in the Cyber, Technology & Media Liability claims group where she has handled hundreds of cyber incidents. Prior to joining AXA XL, Tara worked for an international law firm in San Francisco for more than two years wherein she represented domestic and international insurers in evaluating coverage and managing litigation for claims made under technology, media, and cyber policies. Tara previously was a litigation associate at a boutique law firm and specialized in insurance coverage, commercial, and appellate litigation. Following law school, Tara served as a law clerk to three judges at the Los Angeles County Superior Court, where she prepared draft tentative rulings for all phases of trial court litigation. Tara graduated from the Johns Hopkins University with a double major in Psychology and Economics and received her J.D. from UCLA Law School. Tara is admitted to the California bar and is based out of AXA XL's Chicago office.

Stanley T. Proctor, Senior Vice President, Western Litigation, Inc., Houston, TX USA

Stan graduated from Texas A&M University in 1989 and was a member of the University's Honors Program. Stan received his Juris Doctorate with Honors, *cum laude*, from the University of Houston in 1993. While in law school, Stan was a research assistant, an editor of a law journal, and a member of The Order of the Barons. From 1993 until 2006, Stan was engaged in civil trial work in Houston, Texas. He worked at national and international law firms defending professional negligence claims, insurance bad faith matters, and representing domestic and international insurers in coverage disputes. In 2006, Stan joined Western Litigation, Inc. as a Claims Attorney, and is now a Senior Vice President.

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Andrea Schillaci, Hurwitz & Fine, P.C., Buffalo, NY USA

Andrea heads the Hurwitz & Fine, P.C. Business & Commercial Litigation Department. Her practice includes matters in the areas of business disputes, employment litigation, healthcare, professional liability, and regulatory and compliance matters. She also has extensive experience in the directors' and officers' liability, errors and omissions, and environmental matters. She serves on the firm's Board of Directors as Secretary.

Andrea is listed among the Top 25 Female and Top 50 Attorneys in New York *Super Lawyers Magazine* and is listed among the *Best Lawyers in America*. She is a member of the International Association of Defense Counsel and Commercial Law and Professional Liability Committees of DRI. In 2017, Ms. Schillaci was awarded the Top Women in Law Excellence in Law Award by the legal publication the *New York Daily Record*. The Top Women in Law awards "recognize the outstanding accomplishments of female attorneys who are making notable contributions to the legal profession while inspiring positive change in the community."

Andrea is a member of the board and co-chair of the Professional Liability Committee of the Harmonie Group, a carefully vetted international network of defense attorneys. She is also President of the National Association of Women Business Owners ("NAWBO"), Buffalo Niagara Chapter.

Todd C. Scott, Vice President of Risk Management, Minnesota Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company, Minneapolis, MN USA

Todd is a frequent author and guest lecturer on the topics of malpractice, ethics, and practice management systems. Much of his duties include helping lawyers select and implement software systems appropriate to their particular practice. He had previously served as Attorney/Claims Representative for MLM, and was the head of their technology subsidiary, Mutual Software. Todd has also taught legal technology as an adjunct professor in the Legal Studies Department at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota. He is a graduate of Hamline University School of Law and is a member of the American Bar Association, and the Minnesota State Bar Association where he has served as Chair of the Technology Committee and Past Chair of the Practice Management & Marketing Section.

Jill M. Steinberg, Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, P.C., Memphis, TN USA

Jill concentrates her practice in litigation with significant experience in medical malpractice, nursing home liability, and products liability. Jill has tried more than 30 jury trials and has appeared before the Tennessee Court of Appeals, Tennessee Supreme Court, and Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. She is listed in *Chambers USA* as a leading medical malpractice defense lawyer in Tennessee and in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Medical Malpractice Law, Health Care Litigation, Personal Injury Litigation, and Product Liability Litigation. She is also listed in *Mid-South Super Lawyers* in Personal Injury Defense: Medical and ranked among that publication's top 50 attorneys in Memphis and top 100 attorneys in Tennessee.



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Lisa C. Tulk, Kessler Collins, Dallas, TX USA

Lisa is a shareholder in the Texas firm of Kessler Collins where she has been defending claims against insureds for nearly 20 years and frequently advises clients on cybersecurity issues in commercial transactions. In addition to being active in the DRI and its state affiliate, the Texas Association of Defense Counsel, Lisa is the Immediate Past President of the Professional Liability Defense Federation and has served on its board of directors since 2016. Her practice primarily focuses on advising and defending clients in the securities, construction, software, and healthcare industries.