

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY ROUNDTABLE SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

CYNTHIA A. CARTER, EXECUTIVE CLAIMS CONSULTANT, BERKLEY SELECT, CHICAGO, IL

Cynthia Carter specializes in professional liability and employment practice exposures to large law firms. She also manages Berkley Select's portfolio of accountant's professional liability accounts. Additional professional liability experience includes middle-market law firms, financial institutions, broker/dealer, insurance brokers, and real estate agents. Prior to joining Berkley Select, Ms. Carter practiced law in the areas of healthcare and medical professional liability, managing high exposure risks on behalf of international and domestic insurers and reinsurers. In this role, she conducted risk assessment audits of large and mid-size healthcare systems and facilities and advised clients on all aspects of coverage, strategy, and litigation. Ms. Carter is admitted to practice law in the state of Illinois. She obtained her undergraduate degree at Tulane University and her juris doctorate from Loyola University Chicago School of Law.

MELISSA S. DEMMON, VICE PRESIDENT, CLAIMS COUNSEL, SOMPO, PURCHASE, NY

Melissa Demmon joined Sampo in July 2012 and supervises the lawyers' malpractice and accountants' malpractice claims team. Ms. Demmon has more than 19 years of insurance claims and legal experience. Prior to joining Sampo, Ms. Demmon was Claims Counsel for a major insurance company in St. Louis, Missouri where she managed a large caseload of LPL claims against policies with limits up to \$5M. She previously served as counsel with a national law firm, serving as coverage counsel to insurers with regard to D&O, PL, and F1 liability insurance policies. Ms. Demmon spent seven years with another law firm in New York as an associate and counsel, again serving as coverage and monitoring counsel to insurers in connection with D&O/PL insurance policies. She also defended insurance companies in federal and state courts in coverage litigation. Prior to that time, she was an associate with another New York law firm, representing insurers' interests in claims made against insureds under LPL and miscellaneous E&O insurance policies. Ms. Demmon is a member of the New York, New Jersey, and Missouri Bars, and is also admitted to the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York and the District of New Jersey. She received her J.D. from St. John's University School of Law and her B.A. from Columbia College, Columbia University. She is a member of American Bar Association (ABA), the Professional Liability Underwriting Society (PLUS), Association of Professional Insurance Woman (APIW), and the Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (CLM).

TIMOTHY J. GEPHART, VICE PRESIDENT OF CLAIMS, MINNESOTA LAWYERS MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Tim Gephart, CPCU, is Vice President of Claims at Minnesota Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company. He has served as an adjunct professor at the University of St. Thomas School of Law, where he taught a course on legal malpractice, and is currently an adjunct professor at the University of Minnesota Law School where he teaches a course on legal malpractice and professional responsibility. Mr. Gephart served six years on the Minnesota Lawyers Professional Responsibility Board and six years on the Minnesota State Board of Legal Certification and is now serving on the Minnesota Board on Judicial Standards. He is a past chair of the National Ethics Committee for the Society of Chartered Property Casualty Underwriters and a past chair of the National Association of Bar Related Insurance Companies Claim Education Committee. Mr. Gephart is a past President of the Professional Liability Defense Federation and is a past Vice President of Insurance for the International Association of Defense Counsel. He has served on the Minnesota State Bar Association Life and the Law Committee and is currently a member of DRI and the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel. He was a recipient of the 2003 MSBA President's Award as a member of the task force on the ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct. Mr. Gephart is a frequent lecturer and has authored many articles on the topics of ethics and risk management for lawyers.

LISA LUPION, ORRICK, NEW YORK, NY

Lisa Lupion has experience litigating a broad range of employment issues, including discrimination, harassment, wrongful discharge, and compensation claims before state and federal courts and administrative agencies. Ms. Lupion regularly advises clients on a variety of employment-related issues, including human resources policies and procedures, offer letters, severance agreements, and employee termination. As part of her counseling role, she creates and conducts training programs for her clients. She also has significant experience conducting internal investigations.

ELIZABETH HAECKER RYAN, COATS ROSE, NEW ORLEANS, LA

Elizabeth Ryan is a Director at her firm. She is a graduate of Tulane University Law School. She practices in the areas of professional liability; construction; employment; environmental; insurance defense and coverage; admiralty; and pharmaceutical and medical device law. She has litigated matters involving toxic tort, class action; maritime personal injury and property damages; personal property damage arising out of fire; products liability; interstate transportation of hazardous substances; and truck and auto litigation. She also serves as a mediator and an umpire in insurance appraisal matters and is a mediator and arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association. She has lectured on numerous occasions regarding environmental, insurance, and ethics and professional liability topics.

MICHAEL J. SEVERYN, REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT OF CLAIMS, PROASSURANCE COMPANIES, OKEMOS, MI

Mike Severyn offers professional liability insurance to healthcare professionals and facilities; professional liability insurance to attorneys; liability insurance for medical technology and life sciences risks; and workers' compensation insurance for employers, groups, and associations throughout the United States. He has been with ProAssurance for 23 years. Since 1990, Mr. Severyn has been an active member of the State Bar of Michigan. Prior to joining ProAssurance, he worked in private practice as an attorney defending medical malpractice claims, chiropractic malpractice claims, podiatric malpractice claims, nursing home malpractice claims, no fault claims, and workers' compensation claims.

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MEREDITH KAPLAN STOMA, MORGAN MELHUISE ABRUTYN, LIVINGSTON, NJ

Meredith Kaplan Stoma is a member of her firm's Executive Committee and is one of the firm's Managing Partners. She has substantial and wide-ranging experience in defending all types of professionals – including attorneys, accountants, architects, engineers, insurance producers, and real estate agents and brokers – in professional malpractice actions through all phases of litigation in New Jersey and the New York metropolitan area. She also has extensive experience defending individuals and corporations in complex commercial, employment, and personal injury matters. Ms. Stoma is also an accomplished appellate advocate. She has successfully argued several matters before the Supreme Court and Appellate Division of New Jersey. Ms. Stoma is currently the Chair for the IADC Professional Liability Committee.

MICHAEL J. SULLIVAN, COLLINS EINHORN FARRELL, P.C., SOUTHFIELD, MI

Mike Sullivan is in his 10th year as co-managing shareholder of Collins Einhorn Farrell, P.C. in Michigan. Mr. Sullivan, along with his co-managing shareholder, has presided over growth that has more than doubled the size of the firm in that time frame. Additionally, Mr. Sullivan has focused his practice on the defense of professionals, including lawyers and accountants, for more than 35 years. He is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. Long active in bar activities, Mr. Sullivan is a past president of the Oakland County Bar Association, Oakland County Bar Foundation, a past chairperson of the Negligence Council of the State Bar of Michigan, and a past chair of the Professional Liability Roundtable.

TIMOTHY F. SULLIVAN, PRESIDENT & CEO, NAMIC INSURANCE COMPANY, INC. (NAMICO), INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Tim Sullivan is the President & CEO of NAMIC Insurance Company, Inc. (NAMICO), as well as the Vice President and General Manager of NAMIC Insurance Agency (NIA), affiliates of the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC). Together NAMICO and NIA comprise NAMIC Insurance Solutions, a niche provider of Insurance Company and Insurance Agent Professional Liability insurance, including D&O, Company E&O, Agent E&O, Employment Practices liability, Fiduciary liability and Data Breach liability insurance coverages for the insurance industry. Mr. Sullivan was awarded the designation of Registered Professional Liability Underwriter (RPLU) by the Professional Liability Underwriting Society (PLUS) in April of 1998. He has spoken frequently at state and district mutual insurance association meetings.

MOLLY (EIDEN) TEIGEN, CLAIM ATTORNEY, MINNESOTA LAWYERS MUTUAL, MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Molly (Eiden) Teigen is a claim attorney with Minnesota Lawyers Mutual Insurance Company. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Wisconsin – Madison. She received her law degree and business law certificate from Hamline University School of Law. Prior to joining Minnesota Lawyers Mutual, she practiced in the areas of insurance defense and general civil litigation. Ms. Teigen holds both the Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter designation and the Registered Professional Liability Underwriter + designation. She is a member of the Professional Liability Defense Federation Board of Directors.

PEGGY A. WILSON, MORROW WILLNAUER CHURCH, L.L.C., KANSAS CITY, MO

Peggy Wilson has 20 years of experience as an attorney working in commercial and general civil litigation with an emphasis in professional liability and discipline, employment, personal injury, premises liability, and construction law. She represents clients in multiple jurisdictions including state and federal agencies. Ms. Wilson is licensed to practice in Missouri and Kansas. She graduated with honors from the University of Missouri, Kansas City School of Law in 1998 after receiving her B.A. in Political Science from Avila College in Kansas City, Missouri.

PETER J. WOO, GOLDBERG SEGALLA, LOS ANGELES, CA

Peter Woo is a highly experienced civil litigator who focuses on complex labor and employment matters. Mr. Woo is the vice chair of the firm's Employment and Labor Practice Group, and in his practice, he defends high-level executives and employers against claims including discrimination, harassment, retaliation, wrongful termination, and wage and hour matters (individual, class action, and representative matters) in state, federal, arbitration, and administrative venues. He routinely provides sexual harassment training and materials to executives, managers, and employees under current California and federal law with emphasis on practical solutions. Mr. Woo's experience includes handling insurance coverage matters, particularly providing advisory opinions on complex claims issues on professional lines of insurance, including E&O liability; public, private, and nonprofit D&O liability; employment practices liability (EPL); and fiduciary liability products.

MEDICAL LIABILITY TRACK SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

NONA J. BONANNO, HEAD OF PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY PROGRAM CLAIMS, AXIS INSURANCE, BERKELEY HEIGHTS, NJ

Nona Bonanno currently serves as AXIS' Head of Professional Liability Program Claims following her role as Head of Claim Operations from September 2016 to May 2018. She joined AXIS in January 2006 and handled Lawyers Professional Liability claims for more than eight years and D&O claims for two years, serving in roles as Claims Specialist, Senior Claims Specialist, and AVP Claims. Before joining AXIS in 2006, Ms. Bonanno practiced law in Washington, D.C., primarily representing insurance companies and insureds in the defense of personal injury and vehicular tort cases in local and federal courts in the District of Columbia and Maryland. She graduated *cum laude* from Howard University School of Law and earned a B.A. in Economics and Financial Management from The Catholic University of America, both in Washington, D.C. During law school, she clerked at the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, and afterward held a two year judicial clerkship in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. She is licensed to practice law in the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

THOMAS J. DAWSON, III, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, TD&P CONSULTING, INC., SILVER SPRING, MD

Tom Dawson is the founder of TD&P Consulting, Inc., an applied healthcare policy firm providing litigation support linking life care plan analysis, healthcare cost studies, and policy research. Mr. Dawson has served as a senior advisor on Capitol Hill and a technical expert to Fortune 100 and cabinet-level departments of the U.S. federal government. Mr. Dawson is a recognized authority on the Affordable Care Act and the valuation of medical damages. He serves on several boards including the DC Board of Medicine, and the editorial board for the Journal of Medical Regulation. He holds advanced degrees from the University of Florida and George Washington University, and is a graduate of George Washington University School of Law and Morehouse College.

JULIE B. DU PONT, ARNOLD & PORTER, NEW YORK, NY

Julie du Pont focuses on mass tort pharmaceutical product liability litigation as well as complex commercial litigation and government investigations. Ms. du Pont has extensive state and federal court experience representing major US and international corporations and individual clients in all phases of the litigation process, including motion practice; discovery; trial preparation and trial; and settlement and appeals. Ms. du Pont has substantial experience representing pharmaceutical companies, including Pfizer, Novartis, Bayer, Endo Pharmaceuticals, Boston Scientific, and AstraZeneca in product liability lawsuits involving both prescription drugs and medical devices. Ms. du Pont has extensive experience in expert and science related work and a focus of her practice is developing and rebutting expert medical and scientific evidence, and litigating the admissibility of expert opinion testimony.

CONSTANCE A. ENDELICATO, WOOD SMITH HENNING & BERMAN, LOS ANGELES, CA

An accomplished trial lawyer, Constance Endelicato is vastly experienced in defending professional liability claims. She defends physicians, hospitals, and skilled nursing facilities, as well as legal and accounting professionals, among other service providers. She also defends employers in wrongful termination and discrimination actions. She is experienced in handling class actions, mass tort litigation, appellate, and federal matters. She is admitted to practice in the United States District Court, Central, Northern, and Southern Districts of California. As a reflection of Ms. Endelicato's accomplishments, her extensive trial experience has afforded her membership in the prestigious American Board of Trial Advocates. She is an active member of the IADC Medical Defense and Health Law Committee and acts as Vice Chair of Webinars.

RICK FARLOW, VICE-PRESIDENT, BERKLEYMED, NASHVILLE, TN

Rick Farlow is Vice-President for BerkleyMed which is an excess insurance carrier that focuses solely on the healthcare and professional liability insurance industry with a nationwide distribution. He has over thirty years of experiences with technical oversight on physician, hospital and general liability claims having served in a number of Claim Technical & Management Positions. At BerkleyMed, he is responsible for oversight of the most technically complex and highest severity claims with unique fact patterns and precedent-setting matters. Mr. Farlow's experience and expertise has been shared at various national industry events, where he has presented on a wide array of current events and issues in Claim Management.

THOMAS GEROULO, BARDSLEY, BENEDICT + CHOLDEN, LLP, SCRANTON, PA

Tom Geroulo brings a creative and aggressive approach to his practice complemented by his unique skill set to consistently deliver favorable results for his clients. He offers experience across a wide range of practice areas including general liability litigation, high-end damages defenses in catastrophic cases, and intellectual property law. Over the last several years, Mr. Geroulo has dedicated significant time and resources to successfully drive changes in the legal system to correct unfair practices in the pursuit of catastrophic litigation awards. Mr. Geroulo has worked on breaking barriers nationwide in high damages cases to drive the conversation about insurance in the courtroom. In furtherance of his pursuits, he has become a Fellow-Certified Medicare Secondary Payer Professional.

ANDREW C. HALL, SENIOR CLAIMS EXAMINER, MEDMARC, CHANTILLY, VA

Andy Hall is a Senior Claims Examiner at Medmarc. In this role, he is responsible for managing claims and litigation asserted against Medmarc's life science insureds. These responsibilities include factual investigation, assessing liability and damages, analyzing coverage, resolving claims, and managing counsel. The claims he handles involve a diverse group of insureds that span across the life science industry. In addition to his claims responsibilities, Mr. Hall is a member of Medmarc's product implementation team, which is tasked with creating and drafting Medmarc's various insurance products. He is also regularly asked to speak to outside organizations on life science, litigation, and insurance related issues. Prior to coming to Medmarc, Mr. Hall worked as an attorney for a national law firm where he litigated cases in state and federal court across a variety of subject areas, including insurance coverage, products liability, professional liability, and general liability. He is licensed to practice law in Virginia and the District of Columbia and is a graduate of Wake Forest University and the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

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ROBERT P. (BOB) MACKENZIE, III, STARNES DAVIS FLORIE, BIRMINGHAM, AL

Robert P. (Bob) MacKenzie, III is the managing partner at Starnes Davis Florie in Birmingham, Alabama, and his practice is devoted to handling a broad scope of litigation including medical and legal malpractice actions, bad faith, product liability, commercial transactions, and labor and employment. He has tried more than 100 jury trials to verdict involving the defense of physicians, hospitals, lawyers, commercial institutions, and product manufacturers. He has published multiple articles on the defense of legal malpractice suits and his practice includes cases in Alabama and the Southeast United States.

DAVID PRISCO, SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT, AVALON CLAIMS MANAGEMENT, COLUMBUS, OH

David Prisco has 31 years of multi-state litigation management experience involving physician, hospital, dentists, and long term care defendants. He is Senior Vice-President of Avalon Claims Management, a third party claims organization that specializes in professional and general liability claims management services. Avalon's clientele consist of self-insurance, risk retention, and captive management programs that do not have an internal claims staff. As a manager, Mr. Prisco is responsible to devise continuous process improvements to increase efficiency and productivity for business growth. As a resolution specialist, he is responsible to analyze, evaluate, and recommend strategic plans to achieve fair case resolutions and cost control management. Mr. Prisco has a business degree from Penn State, a Senior Claim Law Associate designation from the American Educational Institute, multi-state adjuster licenses, and a certified mediator designation.

J. TYLER ROBINSON, HEYL, ROYSTER, VOELKER & ALLEN, SPRINGFIELD, IL

Tyler Robinson is a partner at Heyl, Royster, Voelker & Allen, P.C. and serves as Chair of the firm's Long Term Care/Nursing Homes and Qui Tam (Whistleblower) Practice Groups. His practice includes defending healthcare providers against qui tam lawsuits filed pursuant to the False Claims Act. Mr. Robinson also concentrates his practice in the area of professional liability where he defends physicians throughout Illinois in a broad variety of cases. With his extensive healthcare background, he brings a unique approach when defending high-end damages in catastrophic cases. Over the last several years, Mr. Robinson has successfully overcome collateral source rule objections, developed damage rebuttal theories consistent with existing law, and his efforts have enabled his clients to save millions of dollars.

ROBERT G. SMITH, LORANCE THOMPSON PC, HOUSTON, TX

Rob Smith is a shareholder of Lorange Thompson PC. Mr. Smith has worked on a broad range of legal matters, from product liability, personal injury, and commercial litigation, to contracts, employment, and shareholder agreements. He is Board Certified in Personal Injury Trial Law by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization. He is an active member of the IADC Medical Defense and Health Law Committee, serving as Vice Chair of Publications, 2017-2019. Mr. Smith finds that the most rewarding part of practicing law is getting to know his clients, their goals and challenges, and ultimately working together towards an efficient solution.