



**BULLIVANT  
HOUSER**



## **MICHAEL A. GUADAGNO**

Shareholder

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Michael Guadagno defends leading insurance and reinsurance companies in third-party liability coverage disputes and bad faith litigation involving many different lines of insurance products, including commercial general liability, professional liability, homeowners, and property and casualty. With an established cross-border practice in the Pacific Northwest and Alaska, he's skilled at figuring out multiple lawsuits that are in play at the same time and thrives on resolving challenging cases to get results for his clients. He helps insurers avoid lawsuits and advises them on a variety of claims, including construction defect, sexual assault, transportation, and environmental pollution.

Clients seek out his counsel especially on high-value and high-risk cases because he is adept at navigating all the issues and seeing pitfalls down the road. Michael is frank with clients about the reality of their cases and claims, their options and all the risks involved, and estimates on likelihood of success.

### **PRACTICE AREAS**

Construction  
D&O Liability  
Insurance Coverage  
Personal & Catastrophic Injury Litigation  
Product Liability  
Professional Liability  
Transportation

### **EDUCATION**

- Seattle University, School of Law - J.D., *cum laude*, 2003
- Seattle University - M.B.A. - International Business, 2003
- University of Missouri, Columbia - B.A. - Political Science, 1999

### **BAR ADMISSIONS**

- Alaska, 2016
- Washington, 2004
- Oregon, 2013
- Idaho, 2014

### **COURT ADMISSIONS**

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of Idaho
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Washington
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington
- U.S. District Court, District of Oregon
- U.S. District Court, District of Alaska

**PROFESSIONAL AND  
CIVIC INVOLVEMENT**

- Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (Member, 2015-Present)
- Washington Defense Trial Lawyers (Member; Board of Trustees, Strategic Planning Committee, 2005-2018)
- Foundation for Washington Courts (Board of Trustees, 2016-2018)
- Puget Sound Adjusters Association (Member, Speaker, 2014-2018)
- Washington State Bar Association (Member, Legislative Committee, 2007-2010)
- Catherine Blaine Middle School (Facilitator, Mock Trial, 2017-2018)
- Nathan Hale High School (Coach, Mock Trial, September 2009-2011)
- Villa Academy (Facilitator, Mock Trial, 2010-2018)
- Washington YMCA Youth & Government

**AWARDS AND HONORS**

- Selected for inclusion in Washington Super Lawyers (2017-2022 – Insurance Coverage & Civil Litigation Defense)
- Recipient of the Washington Defense Trial Lawyers 2016 President's Award for his contributions to the civil justice system
- Named as a "Rising Star" in Washington Super Lawyers (2009 – Insurance Coverage)
- Awarded "Linda Crum Service Above Self Award," Seattle Public Schools (2010)
- Awarded "Community Leadership Award," Washington Defense Trial Lawyers (WDTL) (2011)
- Awarded "Professional Excellence Award," Seattle Select Attorneys (2012)
- Awarded "Pro Bono Publico Service Commendation," Washington State Bar Association (2009-Present)

**PUBLICATIONS AND  
PRESENTATIONS**

- Speaker, "The Duty to Defend in Washington & Oregon: West Hills Dev. Co. v. Chartis Claims, Inc., 360 Or. 650, 385 P.3d 1053 (2016)," Washington Defense Trial Lawyers (WDTL) Annual Insurance Law Update (2017)
- Speaker, "When Settlement Negotiations Are Not Privileged - How to Successfully Negotiate Claims Settlements with One Arm Tied behind Your Back," Puget Sound Adjusters Association (PSAA) Claims College Symposium (2017)
- Speaker, "Insurance Coverage Complexities, Concerns, Liability & Litigation," Trucking and Transportation Conference, National Business Institute (NBI) (2016)
- Speaker, "Blurring the Lines of Subrogation and Reimbursement," Puget Sound Adjusters Association (PSAA) (2016)
- Speaker & Author, "Comparing Work Product Applications to Claim Files in Pacific Northwest Jurisdictions," Puget Sound Adjuster Association (PSAA) (2016)
- Co-Speaker & Author, "Comparing Work Product Applications to Claim Files in Pacific Northwest Jurisdictions," Claims & Litigation Management Alliance (CLM) Seattle Chapter Educational & Networking Event (2016)
- Speaker, "Real Life Cedell Issues," Washington Defense Trial Lawyers (WDTL) Insurance Law Update (2016)
- Speaker & Author, "Privilege and Ethics in the Tripartite Relationship," Washington Defense Trial Lawyers (WDTL) Annual Ethics Seminar (2015)

- Speaker, “Challenges to the Attorney-Client Privilege in U.S. Jurisdictions After Cedell and TransCanada,” Lloyd’s of London (2015)
- Co-Speaker, “Admission/Exclusion of Unique Evidence,” National Business Institute (NBI) (2015)
- Co-Speaker, “Handling Email, Social Media and Other Electronically Stored Information (ESI),” National Business Institute (NBI) (2015)
- Co-Speaker, “Keeping Evidence Out (Pre and Post Trial),” National Business Institute (NBI) (2015)
- Speaker, “Powerful Closing Arguments,” Washington Defense Trial Lawyers (WDTL) Defense Academy (2014)
- Speaker, “Shhhh! The Attorney-Client Privilege after Cedell v. Farmers Ins. Co. of Wash.,” Puget Sound Claims Managers Council (2013)
- Speaker, “Cedell v. Farmers Ins. Co. of Wash.,” Puget Sound Adjusters Association & Washington Defense Trial Lawyers (WDTL) (2013)
- Speaker & Author, “New Marijuana Laws: Weeding Out the Coverage Implications of I-502,” Washington Defense Trial Lawyers (WDTL) (2013)