

# 2023 FALL CONFERENCE

LITIGATING IN THE CHANGING WORLD  
September 28 - 30 | Austin Marriott Downtown  
AUSTIN, TEXAS

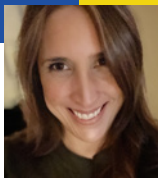
## FACULTY GUESTS

The Harmonie Group & Canadian Litigation Counsel would like to thank the following industry leaders for their participation in our 2023 Fall Conference. We are especially appreciative of them sharing their knowledge and insights into their respective fields and areas of expertise.



## CLAUDIA ARGUELLO

**Sr Claim Examiner**  
Berkley Environmental |  
a Berkley Company



Claudia Arguello has over twenty years of experience managing complex exposures for various carriers. She recently joined Berkley Environmental as a Senior Claims Examiner. Her primary focus is centered around managing the most severe and complex claims arising out of Berkley's Commercial Auto, GL and Excess/Surplus claims nationwide. Prior to joining Berkley, she was a Consultant for Nationwide, Northland and The Hartford managing similar complex exposures including Transportation and Toxic Torts. Claudia is originally from Miami and graduated from the University of South Florida and has been residing in Hartford, CT since 2001. Her memberships include CLM, FTA, TIDA and WIT. When she is not working, you can typically find her hiking in the mountains of New Hampshire.

## TODD E. BRANT

**Vice President of Litigation**  
Universal Property & Casualty  
Insurance Company



Todd Brant currently serves as the Vice President of Litigation for Universal Property and Casualty Insurance Company based in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. While Universal is Florida's largest private homeowner's insurance carrier, it continues to expand its geographic footprint. As the Vice President of Litigation, Mr. Brant is responsible for the strategic oversight and management of the company's litigation throughout the country. Prior to assuming his current role in 2021, he served as Executive General Counsel for Universal starting in 2013. Mr. Brant previously served as a shareholder with Harmonie Group member Keller Landsberg PA representing insurers throughout the State of Florida in first-party coverage disputes, liability matters and bad-faith litigation.

## JOHN BURCHFIELD

**General Counsel**  
The Weekley Group of Companies



John Burchfield joined David Weekley Homes in 2002 as Vice President and General Counsel. Mr. Burchfield has extensive experience in business, civil, complex commercial and real estate litigation and transactions. He manages the company's legal team and represents the company with trade groups tracking industry-related issues and advocating legislative and regulatory reform. Prior to joining the company, Mr. Burchfield practiced law in the Houston area and was a partner in a local firm. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Houston and a Juris Doctor from the University of Houston Law Center, where he was an Associate Editor for the Houston Law Review.

## JAMES W. EVERETT

**Vice President, Claims**  
Everett Cash Mutual Insurance



Jim Everett joined the ECM Insurance Group in 2017 and leads the Insurance Claims Division. Jim began his insurance career in 1985 after graduating from Trenton State College in New Jersey with a Degree in Business Administration and Marketing. During his career he has held various domestic and international P&C claims positions, including Claim Adjuster, Subrogation Manager, District Claim Manager, Claim Auditor, Major Case Claim Consultant, Claim Director, and VP of Claims. Jim has earned his Associates in Claims, Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriter designations and is an active member of the CLM organization.

## MIKE FOX

### Manager

Riverwood Claims Management, Inc.

Mike Fox is a Manager with Riverwood Claims Management, a Custard Company. He has over 41 years of successful multi-line insurance claims experience, with 36 of those years in varying leadership capacities involving operational efficiency, performance management, data reporting, process improvement, collaboration, and training. His mature management style allows him to provide an appropriate level of balance between the critical and key elements of operational leadership.

His vast experience covers the handling of claims at all levels of complexity, both personal and commercial. He has overseen leadership for large teams of adjusters, handling all types of claims.

Mike lives in the Tyler, Texas area, and in addition to his work in the insurance claims field, he enjoys flower gardening, music, and spending time with his family, especially his four grandchildren.

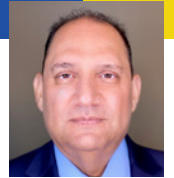


## JAVIER GARZA

### Director, Risk Management

Cemex USA

Javier Garza has been with CEMEX since 2016 and holds the position as Director, Risk Management. He is responsible for the oversight of the Risk Management Department, the procurement of insurance and the administration of the CEMEX US casualty program. He has over 25 years in leading and developing strategic cost control programs for all lines of coverage. He earned a Bachelor's degree from The University of Texas and a Master's degree from Texas State University. Javier has extensive experience with the public, private and regulatory sectors of the insurance claims industry.



## CHRISTOPHER GREENE

### Sr. Vice President & Chief Operating Officer

Canal Insurance Company

Headquartered in Greenville, SC, Chris joined Canal as its General Counsel in January 2009 and in June 2017 took on the additional role as the company's Chief Claims Officer. In these combined roles, Chris served as the primary legal advisor to the Board and Executive Management of the Company, provided work product related to the drafting and review of contracts, implemented enterprise risk management strategies, ensured company compliance, instituted various corporate governance standards, formulated litigation management strategies, and provided strategic and operational leadership to Canal's Claims Department relating to all claims units, all lines of business, and all associated litigation across the U.S. In November 2022, Chris was promoted to Sr VP and Chief Operating Officer for Canal. In this new role Chris provides executive oversight to the Claims, Underwriting, Product Management, Risk Management, Claims Legal, and Marketing Departments of the Company.

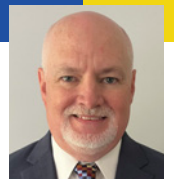


## JEFFERY M. GUILLORY

### Corporate Counsel, Claims and Litigation

Acceptance Insurance

Jeff Guillory is Corporate Counsel for the Claims and Litigation Departments of First Acceptance Insurance Company of Nashville, Tennessee (officing in Columbia, Missouri). First Acceptance is an insurance provider that offers a range of insurance products, primarily automobile insurance, across 15 states. Jeff joined Acceptance in 2022 after serving 22 years as Senior Litigation Counsel for Shelter Insurance Company of Columbia, Missouri. Jeff was also in private practice for 9½ years in Joplin, Missouri. While in Joplin, he also served as an adjunct professor for the School of Business Administration for Missouri Southern State University.





## DANIEL D. HILL

**President & CEO**  
Equity Sales Finance, Inc.



Daniel Hill is a former Harmonie liaison from the Utah firm of Snow, Christensen & Martineau. He remains Of Counsel with Snow Christensen, and still networks legal work through Harmonie connections. Five years ago, however, and after more than 30 years of practicing law, Dan decided to start his own finance company, Equity Sales Finance, Inc. Equity Sales Finance operates in the very specific and highly regulated niche of “indirect sales finance” companies and acquires closed-end retail installment sales contracts. Equity Sales Finance presently does business in 46 states and has grown quickly. Dan is the sole shareholder, President and Chief Executive Officer of Equity Sales Finance.

## DANIELLE KELLY

**National Casualty General Adjuster**  
McLarens

Along with her claims handling background, Danielle also brings experience as a paralegal for nine years, and a surgical scrub for five years. She began working for McLarens in October 2016. Danielle has handled claims from inception to final settlement. She has a broad claim adjusting background that includes property, DRAM (liquor liability), product liability, fatalities, commercial and residential liability. Danielle is licensed throughout the United States and is familiar with the court systems in those states. She is also familiar with the Federal Court system.

## PAUL MCNAMARA

**General Counsel**  
Utility Trailer Manufacturing Company



Paul McNamara is the Chief Legal Officer for Utility Trailer Manufacturing Company, LLC as well as its affiliated companies. Utility Trailer is America’s oldest family-owned trailer manufacturer founded in 1914 and operating continuously through the same family ownership. Under the direction of its 4th-generation leadership, Utility Trailer is North America’s leading manufacturer of refrigerated trailers that has captured over 50% of the refrigerated-trailer market with its industry-leading strong, lightweight 3000R. It also manufactures dry-van and flatbed trailers throughout its 6 factories in the United States and Mexico and is the country’s 4th-largest trailer manufacturer. As Chief Legal Officer, Paul is responsible for all legal and compliance operations of the company, including litigation, labor and employment, dealership and distribution, real estate, environmental, and contract.

## SHANNAN SMITH

**Vice President, Director of Claims**  
Lockton Companies



As the Director of Claims for the Mountain West Series of Lockton, Shannan oversees the claims department with claims professionals in Denver, Phoenix, Seattle and Salt Lake City while servicing clients in the hospitality, religious, real estate, construction, janitorial, food and beverage and healthcare spaces. Shannan specializes in loss sensitive claims management programs involving multiple lines of coverage including workers’ compensation, auto, general and professional liability, environmental, property and employment practices liability. She oversees large complex claims, often engaging outside vendor resources. Before coming to Lockton in 2012, Shannan spent 12 years at U.S. Nursing Corporation (now Ingenovis), While at Correctional Healthcare Companies, Shannan was directly responsible for the oversight of day-to-day health-related legal issues at over 150 correctional facilities nationwide including medical malpractice exposures. Along with strong leadership and technical expertise, Shannan brings a wealth of knowledge related to customer service and account management.

## KARA SOUTHARD

### Senior Director and Corporate Counsel

Lithia & Driveway



Kara Southard is a Senior Director and Corporate Counsel for Lithia & Driveway, currently the largest new vehicle dealership group and ranked #145 on Forbes Fortune 500. In this leadership role, she manages the company's litigation, customer cares, Enterprise Risk Management program, handles mergers and acquisitions, and provides general legal counsel to more than 300 dealerships, nationally and internationally. Prior to joining Lithia, Kara represented both Plaintiffs and Defendants in various areas including insurance defense, personal injury, family law, mass tort, and products liability.

## KYLE STREETMAN

### Senior Vice President, TPA Services

The Littleton Group, a Davies Company



Kyle Streetman serves as the Senior Vice President of TPA Services for Davies and is based out of Austin, Texas. In his role as the Vice President of TPA Services, he manages and oversees Third Party Administrative claim programs for a variety of organizations within the insurance industry from an operational and marketing aspect. These organizations include admitted & non-admitted insurers, managing general agents (MGAs), self-insureds, municipalities, and offshore & stateside captives. Kyle served a three year term on the Surplus Lines Stamping Office of Texas board of directors from 2017-2019 and chaired the SLTX Audit and Finance committee in 2019.

