



Michael R. Davisson

Member

Los Angeles

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Michael R. Davisson is a trial lawyer and insurance counselor who focuses his practice on coverage, coverage litigation, bad faith litigation, and commercial litigation. Over his career, he has handled or advised on hundreds of cases for domestic and international insurers involving directors and officers insurance, fidelity bonds, employment practices insurance, errors and omission insurance, and other types of insurance. He has prepared and tried numerous jury and non-jury cases involving both complex insurance issues and complex commercial litigation issues.

Prior to joining the firm, Mike had been a partner in the Los Angeles office of an international law firm. For six of those years, he was the managing partner of the Los Angeles Office. He is an active member of the Professional Liability Underwriting Society and the Tort and Insurance Practice Section of the American Bar Association. Mike is a frequent writer and speaker on insurance, insurance bad faith, and insurance litigation issues. He is also a contributor to the *Directors & Officers Insurance Deskbook* (4th edition, ABA), the *Annotated Financial Institution Bond* (2nd Edition, ABA), *Commercial Insurance Coverage* (2014, ABA) and *Appleman on Insurance*.

Mike received his bachelor's degree from the University of California at Berkeley. Mike earned his law degree from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law.

Experience

Obtained a ruling that our insurance company client's insured was not entitled to coverage for a \$17 million loss stemming from investing its pension plan assets in a Ponzi scheme. The insured sought to recover under a commercial-crime insurance policy, underwritten by our client, which required that the insured own or hold the funds at the time of the loss. The trial court found that the insured did not "own" the money for coverage purposes at the time of loss because it invested in the Ponzi scheme via loans made to a brokerage firm. This ruling was affirmed on appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Practice Areas

- Bad Faith
- Insurance Coverage

Industry Sectors

- Insurance

Education

- University of California, Hastings College of the Law, J.D., 1978
- University of California–Berkeley, A.B., 1975

Bar Admissions

- California

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