



ROBERT P. ARNOLD

PARTNER

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OVERVIEW

Bob Arnold is an accomplished litigator and counselor with over 30 years of private practice experience. His practice focuses on the representation of insurers and reinsurers, commercial litigation, and defense of product manufacturers and professionals. He has represented clients from across the US, the London insurance market, Bermuda, and Europe.

Bob's insurance coverage experience is wide-ranging and diverse, including first-party property, third-party general liability, cyber and privacy coverages, multi-line package policies, life, health and disability, ERISA, event cancellation, contingency coverages, reinsurance, and bad faith. Bob has litigated complex cases involving property losses, fire, arson, windstorm and flood, business interruption, environmental remediation, asbestos bodily injury and property damage, mold, civil rights claims, clergy misconduct, sexual abuse, life and disability insurance, municipal liability and employment liability. He has handled cases across the country, including in Illinois, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, and West Virginia.

Bob's insurance practice also includes analysis of novel coverage issues, advice on claim management, policy drafting, and the settlement/mediation/arbitration of complex coverage disputes.

Bob's commercial practice includes, employment matters, business tort claims, non-compete agreements, product liability actions, construction defect claims, landlord-tenant disputes and general commercial litigation.

Bob is an Adjunct Professor at Northern Illinois University College of Law.

Prior to entering private practice Bob served as a law clerk to Justice Howard C. Ryan of the Illinois Supreme Court.

FOCUS AREAS

- Appellate
- Bad Faith Litigation
- Commercial
- Cyber and Privacy Risks
- First Party Property
- Insurance and Reinsurance
- Litigation
- Professional Liability/Errors & Omissions

CREDENTIALS

ADMISSIONS

- Illinois
- U.S. District Court, N.D. Illinois

EDUCATION

- Northern Illinois University College of Law, J.D., *summa cum laude*
– Student Works Editor, Northern Illinois Law Review
- University of Illinois, B.A.

EXPERIENCE

NOTABLE DECISIONS

Bob's clients have sought his advice in a wide range of complex and novel areas. Bob's experience includes:

COVERAGE LITIGATION

- Won appeal in Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia over UIM coverage case involving tragic shooting of police officer;
- Won appeal in 3rd Circuit over coverage under professional liability policy;
- Won appeal in Michigan Appellate Court over prejudice requirement in claims-made PL policy;
- Won summary judgment as lead lawyer for insurer defense group in Missouri state court on trigger and allocation for long-term claims;
- Won judgment on the pleadings finding no duty to defend under public entity policy;
- Won summary judgment in West Virginia state court regarding pollution exclusion;
- Defended insurer in coverage and bad faith action arising out of major industrial fire in Illinois;
- Represented property insurers against claims arising from hurricanes, hailstorms and other weather events in multiple jurisdictions;

- Defended contingency insurers in lawsuits over claims arising from events cancelled or curtailed due to hurricanes, disease outbreaks and economic downturn;
- Represented insurers in litigation arising from wrongful conviction following DNA exoneration;
- Won dismissal in Illinois state court of claims against insurer on grounds that claims were outside scope of asset purchase agreement;

COVERAGE ADVICE

- Advised insurers in connection with coverage evaluations and handling of high-value class actions;
- Advised and represented Lloyd's syndicates on issues relating to a national program providing multi-line coverage to municipalities and religious institutions;
- Advised a Bermudan captive reinsurer on coverage issues for claims arising from professional tax shelter advice;
- Advised insurers in connection with coverage for serial clergy and physician sexual abuse claims.

GENERAL LITIGATION

- Defended a manufacturer against injury and fatality claims arising from the catastrophic collapse of an outdoor stage at Indiana State Fair;
- Defended a London-based aquarium equipment company in a case arising out of the failure of the world's largest private all-glass salt water reef aquarium;
- Handled appeal of commercial landlord-tenant dispute.

PRESENTATIONS

Bob has spoken widely on a range of topics to audiences around the country and in London. Invited presentations include:

- "Class Actions" – Lloyd's Syndicate, October, 2018
- "Coverage 201: Risks and Red Flags for Claims Professionals" – Lloyd's Syndicate US Affiliate, May, 2016
- "Anarchy in the US? Handling Litigation and Coverage Disputes in the USA" – Property Risks and Coverage Conference, London Stock Exchange, April 3, 2014
- "Emerging Issues in Public Entity Liability" – Lloyd's Syndicate, February 2013
- "E-Discovery" – Lloyd's Syndicate, March 2010
- "Catastrophic Events: Impact on the Reinsurance Industry" – Mealey's Catastrophic Loss Conference, Amelia Island, FL, May 8-9, 2006
- "Katrina Reinsurance Issues – US and UK Perspectives" – Presented jointly with solicitors from the London firm Barlow Lyde and Gilbert, Chicago, IL, May 2, 2006; London, England, June 13, 2006
- "Catastrophic Event Insurance Claims: Response, Management and Resolution" – American Conference Institute, New York, NY, March 2006
- "Reinsurance Implications of Hurricane Claims" – Mealey's Catastrophic Loss Conference: Business Interruption and Impact on the Insurance Industry, Las Vegas, NV, October, 2005

AFFILIATIONS

- American Bar Association
- Chicago Bar Association
- Defense Research Institute
- Illinois Association of Defense Trial Counsel
- Illinois State Bar Association

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Adjunct Professor, Northern Illinois University College of Law
- Former Member of Clarendon Hills Zoning Board of Appeals/Plan Commission

NEWS

- Bob Arnold Wins Appeal in Illinois Appellate Court for the Fifth District
- Illinois Supreme Court Upholds Biometric Information Privacy Act: Will Rosenbach Become the Majority Rule On "Minority Report" Issue?
- Illinois Appellate Court Issues Favorable Ruling on Anti-Concurrent Cause Language
- Walker Wilcox Wins Appeal in the West Virginia Supreme Court
- WWM Wins Appeal in the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
- WWM Wins Major Pro Rata Allocation Ruling in Missouri Pollution Coverage Action