



AVNIEL J. ADLER

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OVERVIEW

Avniel Adler has successfully represented clients at trial and on appeal for the past ten years. Avniel attended law school in New York, where he was first admitted to the practice of law, before relocating to his home state of Texas, where he was admitted to practice shortly thereafter.

Avniel began his career at a plaintiff's litigation boutique, where he specialized in complex fiduciary litigation between shareholders and owners of privately held business entities. There, Avniel learned how to build a case for trial and how to assess the settlement value of a case, recovering millions of dollars for his clients in the process. Avniel then joined a prominent national law firm where he defended governmental entities, financial services companies, and employers from general liability claims, federal consumer-protection claims, and employment-based claims.

For the past several years, Avniel has focused his practice on defending insurers in litigation. He has defended carriers from first party claims under a variety of insurance forms, including Commercial General Liability, Builders Risk, Businessowners, Homeowners, Umbrella, and Workers Compensation policies. Avniel has investigated and prepared coverage opinions, taken examinations under oath, and successfully obtained the dismissal of dozens of litigated claims.

Avniel has considerable expertise with insurance appraisal issues and is frequently sought out by insurers and defense counsel alike to defend or counsel insurers on appraisal matters. A small sample of Avniel's recent representative experience is summarized below.

EXPERIENCE

- In an insurance appraisal case, obtained sanction against attorney for frivolous litigation and forum shopping, and handled subsequent appeal affirming trial court's sanction award and appointment of

appraisal umpire after non-suit of insured's claims. See *Jada Etienne v. State Farm Lloyds*, No. 14-18-00665-CV (Tex. App. – Houston [14th Dist.] September 10, 2019).

- In an insurance appraisal case, obtained summary judgment for carrier on all of insured's claims, notwithstanding appraisal award setting the amount of loss at over 100x the amount of carrier's initial claim adjustment. See *Chieu Dac Nguyen v. State Farm Lloyds*, Cause No. 17-CCV-059221, In the County Civil Court at Law Number 2, Fort Bend County, Texas.
- In an insurance coverage case, obtained take-nothing jury verdict for carrier based on no evidence of storm-created opening to apartment complex, notwithstanding parties' stipulation that amount of loss to insured's personal property items exceeded the insurance policy limits. See *Alfredo Alegria, et al v. State Farm Lloyds*, in the Justice Court, Harris County, Texas, Precinct 3, Place 1, Case Number 183100085302.
- In a governmental immunity case, obtained reversal of trial court order denying plea to the jurisdiction for City Building Official. See *Jack Fryday d/b/a Fryday Consulting Services, Inc. v. Linda Michalski*, 541 S.W.3d 345 (Tex. App. – Houston [14th Dist.] 2017, pet. denied).

FOCUS AREAS

- Appellate
- Bad Faith Litigation
- Commercial
- First Party Property
- Insurance and Reinsurance
- Litigation

CREDENTIALS

ADMISSIONS

- New York
- Texas
- U.S. District Court, E.D. Texas
- U.S. District Court, N.D. Texas
- U.S. District Court, S.D. Texas
- U.S. District Court, W.D. Texas

EDUCATION

- Hofstra University School of Law, J.D.
- Yeshiva of Greater Washington, Bachelor of Talmudic Law

AFFILIATIONS

- Houston Volunteer Lawyers
- Houston Young Lawyers Association

- Anti-Defamation League

NEWS

- Walker Wilcox Welcomes Avniel Adler