



Michael R. Davisson

Member

Los Angeles

mdavisson@cozen.com | (213) 892-7966

Mike is a trial lawyer with over 45 plus years of experience in insurance and commercial litigation – the last 30 plus years as first-chair – and has direct experience in antitrust, bankruptcy, breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, director and officer liability, fraud, interference with contract, insurance coverage and bad faith, insurance regulatory, and partnership disputes. A trusted adviser, Mike provides strategic recommendations for businesses and insurers involving multi-party commercial disputes. He has served as lead counsel in complex litigation, and has mediated, arbitrated, litigated and tried hundreds of cases throughout the United States. Mike has helped clients avoid hundreds of millions of dollars in potential recoveries, and handled over 20 appeals. He has achieved significant results in law and motion and appellate practice, resulting in numerous published decisions in both state and federal courts.

Prior to joining the firm, Mike was a partner in an international law firm where he also served for six years as the managing partner of the Los Angeles office. He is an active member of the Professional Liability Underwriting Society and the Tort Trial & 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 has been an editor and contributor to the *Directors & Officers Insurance Deskbook* (2nd, 3rd, and 4th editions, ABA), the *Annotated Financial Institution Bond* (2nd Edition, ABA), *Commercial Insurance Coverage* (2014, ABA), the *Financial Institution Bond and Commercial Crime Policy: Principles and Annotations* (2024, ABA), and *Appleman on Insurance*.

Mike received his bachelor's degree from the University of California at Berkeley, and 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
- Casualty & Specialty Lines Coverage
- Commercial Litigation
- Insurance Corporate & Regulatory
- Insurance Coverage
- Professional Liability 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

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
- U.S. District Court -- Arizona
- U.S. District Court -- Colorado
- U.S. District Court -- Hawaii
- U.S. District Court -- Idaho
- U.S. District Court -- Central District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court -- Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court -- Southern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court--Western District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court -- Oregon
- U.S. District Court -- Southern District of Texas
- U.S. District Court -- Delaware
- U.S. District Court -- New Jersey
- U.S. District Court -- Eastern District of New York

Michael R. Davisson

mdavisson@cozen.com

P: (213) 892-7966 | F: (213) 892-7999

©2024 Cozen O'Connor. All rights reserved.

