Arbitration, Mediation & Conciliation Center

Stacy L. La Scala, Esq. Mediator, Arbitrator

Stacy La Scala is a full time mediator with AMCC, specializing in the resolution of construction, insurance and contractual disputes. Over the last quarter century, Mr. La Scala has accumulated extensive experience in insurance, construction, contracts, mediation and arbitration. He commenced his legal career with the representation of developers, architects, engineers and subcontractors in complex multi-party construction defect proceedings. Stacy then joined a national property casualty carrier as a Regional Director where he was responsible for construction defect claim operations in the Southwestern United States, including Nevada and Arizona. Stacy's role was then expanded to National Litigation Director, where he oversaw insurance litigation, including extra contractual, subrogation, contribution and declaratory relief actions throughout the United States. With a comprehensive background in construction defect litigation, claims handling and coverage issues, Stacy moved into private practice and represented individuals, policyholders and businesses in complex commercial litigation, including multi-party insurance bad faith and contract disputes. Of note, Mr. La Scala was trial counsel in American States Insurance Co. v. National Fire Insurance Co. of Hartford (2011) 202 Cal. App. 4th 692, which resolved a split of authority on the statute of limitations applicable for Subrogation and Contribution causes of action for insurers in California.

In addition to mediating full time, Stacy is also co-author of Thomson Reuters' *California Civil Practice: Torts* 2013-2015 editions. In particular, Stacy authored the chapters on Arbitration; Bad Faith Actions; Duties of Insurer; Duties of Insured; Declaratory Relief Actions; Complaints and Cross-Complaints in Bad Faith Actions; Answers and Other Responsive Pleading in Insurance Related Litigation; and Pretrial Proceedings in Bad Faith Actions.

Education

National Conflict Resolution Center, Mediation Skills Training, 2010
University of San Diego, School of Law, Juris Doctorate, 1990 - Honors Negotiation
University of California, San Diego Cum Laude Psychology and Sociology, 1987
University of Sussex, United Kingdom, 1985-1986

Professional Licenses and Associations

State Bar of California, 1990
United States District Court - Northern, Central & Southern Districts, 1990
California Board of Realtors, 2010
California Horse Racing Board - Licensed Owner, 2002-2006

Professional Experience

Arbitration, Mediation & Conciliation Center (2011 to present)

Full-time Mediator, Arbitrator, Settlement Referee and Special Master



Arbitration, Mediation & Conciliation Center

La Scala & Associates (2008 to present)

Business, Insurance (policy holders and national insurers), Homeowner, Real Estate, Employment and Entertainment counsel to individual and institutional clients.

Selman Breitman LLP (2007 to 2008)

Complex civil litigation, including insurance coverage advice, defense of extracontractual, subrogation and contribution claims for numerous national insurance carriers.

Weston & McElvain LLC (2003 to 2007)

Complex civil litigation, including defense of extra-contractual and equitable claims against national property casualty carriers. Prosecution and defense of insurance coverage recovery actions, including those based upon primary, excess and additional insured commercial general liability policies. Coordinating counsel for coverage litigation, arising out of national products class action matters. Coverage advice provided to national property casualty carriers on commercial general liability policies (both primary and excess) issued to subcontractors, general contractors and developers.

Travelers Insurance (1997 to 2003)

Litigation Director - Construction Defect Claim Department

National responsibility for lawsuits by and against Travelers, including bad faith and extra-contractual suits

National litigation coordination, including selection and maintenance of counsel

National Trial Committee Director

Regional Claims Director - Regional Director for the Southwest United States with policy limits authority. Hire, train and manage claim representatives, senior technical specialists and unit managers. Participate in national and regional training of claim department personnel. Prepare upper level management reports, including quarterly exposure reports and present significant exposure matters to corporate officers.

Shifflet, Walters, Kane & Konoske (1994 to 1997)

High exposure and complex civil litigation. All aspects of civil litigation, including construction defect, real estate and contract litigation, including civil bench and jury trials.

Haasis, Pope & Correll (1990 to 1994)

California Board of Realtors

Represented clients in complex litigation arising out of construction defect and general liability actions.

Past and Current Professional Affiliations

Association of Southern California Defense Council San Diego County Bar Association Los Angeles County Bar Association Barristers - Board of Directors 1991



Mediation & Conciliation Center

Practice Guides, Lectures, Seminars and Articles Presented

California Civil Practice: Torts 2013-2015 ed (Thomson Reuters) Authored civil practice including: Arbitration; Bad Faith Actions; Duties of Insurer; Duties of Insured; Declaratory Relief Actions; Complaints and Cross-Complaints in Bad Faith Actions; Answers and Other Responsive Pleading in Insurance Related Litigation; and Pretrial Proceedings in Bad Faith Actions

(2013-2015)

OCIPS/WRAPs and SIRS

Presentation to Counsel on key insurance aspects of OCIPS/WRAPS and SIRs and their impact on settlement.

Irvine, CA (May 2013)

The Call to Arbitration in Construction Defect Litigation

Article on the enforcement of Arbitration Clauses in CC&Rs.

San Diego, CA (September 2012)

November, 2012

Can Coverage Issues be Resolved Prior to Mediation

Seminar topic presented with panel.

Publication

Insurers' Duty to Settle Article on the insurers' duty to settle in California. (September 2012)

Additional Insured Endorsements and Contractual Indemnity Provisions

Comprehensive Seminar on California Law presented to Burlington Insurance Company.

Burlington, SC (September 2006)

An Examination of Additional Insured Issues Travelers Claim Department Seminar – Lecturer. San Diego, CA (November 2002)

National Construction Defect Claim Training

Litigation Management and Legal Damages – Lecturer.

Scottsdale, AZ (July 2002)

The Defense of Mold Allegations in Construction Defect

Lecture presented to Travelers Claim Department.

San Diego, CA (May 2001)

Charlotte, NC

Eastern United States Construction Defect Claim Training Litigation Management Lecture.

(October 2000)

Western United States Construction Defect Claim Training

Litigation Management Lecture.

Diamond Bar, CA (October 2000)

Indemnity Agreements

Seminar given to PCL Civil Constructors.

San Diego, CA (September 1999)

The Insurer

Authored article, "City of Palos Verdes Estates v. Stonewall."

The article examined the impact and application of Self Insured retentions and gaps in horizontal insurance coverage.

Publication

Contractual Risk Transfer

(September 1997)

El Cajon, CA Seminar given to HVAC and roofing subcontractors (October 1995)

Rate: \$550 per hour

