

**HUGH W. BLACK CPCU, ARM, AIC, CCLA
FORENSIC EXPERT/CONSULTING EXPERT
AXIOM CLAIMS ANALYTICS LLC
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INSURANCE CLAIMS EXPERIENCE

Consultant/Adjuster/Expert

2005 – Present

Part time contract work for one 3rd party insurance claims administrator and one independent adjusting firm handling and supervising construction defect, general liability, professional liability and personal and commercial automobile and property claims. I have been retained as an insurance claims expert in 21 litigated cases in the last seven years. I have testified in deposition and in trial. I have written six formal expert reports for both federal court and superior court. Over 45 years of insurance claims adjusting and administrative/ technical claims management experience. During my career I have developed and conducted multiple claims training programs. Over six years of formal claims audit experience. My areas of technical expertise include bad faith; duty to defend; insurance claims custom and practice and insurance coverage issues.

Devonshire Group

2002– 2005

Claims Analyst - Responsible for the handling of over 100 litigated Construction Defect claims on behalf of several Lloyds of London syndicates. Responsibilities included coverage analysis; issuing reservation of rights letters; setting reserves; controlling and directing defense counsel and coverage counsel; controlling and directing the investigation of independent adjusters; attending mediations and mandatory settlement conferences; reporting to the lead syndicate in London; and negotiating settlements.

West Coast Casualty Service, Inc.

1998 – 2002

Branch Manager/Claims Adjuster - Technical & Administrative responsibility for four adjusters and two secretaries for the handling of Construction Defect, General Liability, Automobile, and Property claims. I personally handled 40 to 60 complex Construction Defect and General Liability claims.

American States Insurance Company

1993 – 1998

Regional Technical Claims Supervisor

Technical claims supervision for two branch offices handling Construction Defect claims involving complex coverage, liability, and damage issues. I was a field technical auditor involving five West Coast branches for Construction Defect, General Liability, Automobile, and Property claims. Developed comprehensive Construction Defect

training program and conducted training sessions at four branch offices. Invited to join Home Office Claims Staff.

AIM Insurance Company

1990 – 1993

Home Office Claims Manager/Senior Claims Analyst

Technical and administrative responsibility for two clerks, three adjusters, and one property supervisor/adjuster. I handled 150 general liability claims involving complex coverage and liability issues. I personally worked closely with the reinsurer within the provisions of the treaties.

Unigard Insurance Group

1986 – 1990

Property and Casualty Claim Manager

Technical and administrative responsibility for 10 to 20 clerical, technical, and supervisory personnel for the handling of commercial and personal lines insurance claims. I supervised premises, slander, libel, construction defect, automobile, products liability, breach of contract, wrongful termination, copyright infringement, trademark infringement, personal injury claims and property claims.

Great American West, Inc.

1985 – 1986

Casualty Manager; San Jose, Ca.

1985 – 1986

Technical and administrative responsibility for 20 adjusters and four supervisors for the handling of commercial and personal lines insurance claims. Supervised construction defect, premises, automobile, products liability, breach of contract, wrongful termination, slander, libel, copyright infringement, trademark infringement, and personal injury claims. Invited to join home office claims staff.

Staff Manager; Orange, Ca.

1984 – 1985

Technical supervision and audit responsibility for branch offices in the states of California, Arizona, Colorado, Washington, Oregon, and Alaska. Personally handled 30 major construction defect claims involving developers, general contractors, and subcontractors in the San Diego area. Developed litigation and claim handling training programs and conducted training seminars at Regional branch offices.

United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company

1979 – 1984

Assistant Claim Superintendent/Claims Supervisor

Assisted Claim Superintendent in the technical and administrative supervision of 35 clerical, technical, and supervisory personnel including two sub offices. Supervised premises, automobile, property, breach of contract, products liability, wrongful termination, advertising injury, copyright infringement, trademark infringement, libel, slander, and personal injury claims.

Industrial Indemnity Insurance Company

1977 – 1979

Claims Examiner

I handled litigated and non-litigated commercial and personal lines automobile and general liability claims.

Safeco Insurance Company

1974 – 1977

Supervisor-Adjuster in Charge/Multiline Field Adjuster

I handled commercial and personal lines property, automobile, and general liability claims.

FORMAL EDUCATION

BS, Business Administration, California State University Fresno, 1970

INSURANCE EDUCATION

Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter, CPCU; 1983

Associate in Risk Management, ARM; 1997

Associate in Claims, AIC; 1984

Casualty Claim Law Associate, CCLA; 1980