



IRENE M. HECHT

OF COUNSEL

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PRACTICE EMPHASIS

- ◆ Insurance Bad Faith & Policyholder Rights

EDUCATION

University of Washington

B.A., magna cum laude, 1977, Speech Communication

University of Washington School of Law

J.D., with honors, 1980

Irene Hecht is an experienced trial lawyer whose practice emphasizes insurance law, particularly in coverage and bad faith litigation.

She also has an active appellate practice and has represented insurance companies in trial courts, the Court of Appeals, and before the Washington State Supreme Court. Ms. Hecht has over 38 years of experience in coverage analysis and representation, including both commercial and personal lines, umbrella and excess coverage, and first- and third-party coverage. She has dealt with a wide variety of coverage issues including: advertising injury, personal injury, construction defect, automobile, underinsured motorist, personal injury protection, homeowner's, products-completed operations, E&O, and D&O. Ms. Hecht also actively advises and defends insurers in bad faith litigation, with respect to both first- and third-party matters.

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

1980, Washington

1980, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington

1990, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington

1998, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

King County Bar Association, *Member*

Washington State Bar Association, *Member*

American Bar Association, *Member*; Tort and Insurance sections

Washington Defense Trial Lawyers Association, *Member*

Northwest Insurance Coverage Association, *Member*

International Association of Defense Counsel, *Member*

HONORS & AWARDS

Selected to Super Lawyers list in *Super Lawyers - Washington*, 2001, 2003, 2007, 2010-2024

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Speaker, *Bifurcation in UIM Cases*, Washington Defense Trial Lawyers Annual Insurance Law Update (2017).

Speaker, *Update on the Duty to Defend and the Duty to Explore Settlement*, Washington Defense Trial Lawyers Annual Insurance Law Update (2015).

Presentation, *An Overview of Bad Faith Law In Washington* (2014).

Presentation, *USAA v. Speed: Road Rage—No Coverage or Duty to Defend*, Northwest Insurance Coverage Association (2014).

Speaker, *Washington Defense Trial Lawyers Annual Insurance Law Update*, Hot Topics in UIM Coverage, 2012.

Speaker, *Hot Topics in UIM Coverage*, Washington Defense Trial Lawyers Annual Insurance Law Update (2012).

Speaker, *Duty to Settle*, Washington Defense Trial Lawyers Annual Insurance Law Update (2011).

Editor, *Washington Motor Vehicle Accident Insurance Deskbook: 2009 Supplement, Chapter 3: Exclusions to Liability Coverage*, Washington Bar Association (2009).

National Business Institute, Inc., *Challenges In Washington Insurance Coverage Litigation--Analyzing Insurance Contract Provisions & Bad Faith Litigation*, 2003.

Speaker, *Multiple Claims, Inadequate Limits: What is an Insurer to Do?* Northwest Insurance Coverage Association (2002).

Editor, *Washington Motor Vehicle Accident Insurance Deskbook: 2d ed., Chapter 3: Liability Insurance: Exclusions*, Washington State Bar Association (2001).

Washington State Bar Association – Editor, *Washington Motor Vehicle Accident Insurance Deskbook, 2d ed., Chapter 3: Liability Insurance: Exclusions*, 2001.

National Business Institute, Inc., *Insurance Law: Third-Party Coverage in Washington--Automobile Insurance & Rules of Professional Conduct and Conflicts of Interest* (1998).

National Business Institute, Inc., *Insurance Law: Third-Party Coverage in Washington - Automobile Coverage* (1996).

Speaker, *The Liability Insurance Policy - The Duties to Defend, Pay and Settle, Reservations of Rights Situations*, King County Bar Association (1996).

Speaker, *The Liability Insurance Policy - The Duties to Defend, Pay and Settle, Reservations of Rights Situations*, King County Bar Association (1996).

Speaker, *Special Issues in Defending an Insured*, Seattle King County Bar Association (1993).

Speaker, *Special Issues in Defending an Insured*, Seattle King County Bar Association (1993).

Speaker, *Annual Nuts and Bolts of Insurance Coverage, Part II - Special Issues in Defending an Insured*, Seattle King County Bar Association (1992).

Speaker, *How to Read an Insurance Policy*, Seattle-King County Bar Association (1990).