



Margaret Van Valkenburg

Shareholder
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Megge's practice focuses on resolving insurance coverage issues for insurance carriers, both through negotiation and litigation. Megge's 30 years of practice—the last 20 years focusing exclusively on the insurance industry—gives her the experience to evaluate claims and cases and provide clients with effective representation in coverage determinations and litigation decisions.

Megge has experience handling first and third-party coverage issues, surety claims and environmental matters. She has worked to settle million-dollar claims and has obtained summary judgment for her clients in state and federal courts in both Oregon and Washington. She also has experience negotiating with regulatory agencies, responding to requests for information and successfully navigating the filing process.

Before coming to Bullivant in 1992, Megge was in-house claims counsel at the corporate headquarters for St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company. Prior to that, she was a partner in a large Minneapolis law firm.

Practice Areas

Insurance Law
Fidelity & Surety
Environmental

Industries

Insurance
Environmental, Energy and Regulatory

Education

University of Oregon, School of Law - J.D., *Order of the Coif*, 1983
University of Washington - B.A., 1979

Bar Admissions

- Washington, 1983
- Oregon, 1993

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Washington
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington
- U.S. District Court, District of Oregon

Professional and Civic Involvement

- Honorable Order of the Blue Goose, Intl. (Gander, Oregon Pond,

2012-Present)

- Multnomah Bar Association (Member)
- Oregon Association of Defense Counsel (Member; Chair, Coverage Practice Group, 2007-2008)
- Oregon Lawyers Against Hunger (Member, Board of Directors, 2013-Present; President, 2003-2005)
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit (Judicial Law Clerk for the Chief Judge Donald P. Lay, 1983-1984)
- Buckman Arts Focus Elementary School (President, Parent-Teacher Association, 2005-2007)
- da Vinci Arts Middle School (Vice President, Parent-Teacher Association, 2012-2013)

Awards and Honors

- AV[®] Preeminent[™], Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell
- Selected for inclusion in *Oregon Super Lawyers* (2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2006 — Insurance Coverage)
- Selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*[®] (2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009 — Insurance Law)

Publications and Presentations

- Author, "The Effect of Cedell v. Farmers on Claim Communication in Washington Matters" (2017)
- Author, "'Splitting the File' in Washington State" (2017)
- Oregon Chapter Author, "Reasonable Expectations: Interpreting Insurance Policies in Common Law Jurisdictions," American Bar Association (ABA) Book Publishing, Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section (TIPS) (2016)
- Co-Author, "The Organizational Deposition of an Insurance Company," American Bar Association, Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section (TIPS), *TortSource*, Fall 2015, Vol. 18, Issue 1
- Co-Author, "Insured Injuries Under Coverage A" Chapter in *The Reference Handbook on the Commercial General Liability Policy*, American Bar Association (2014)
- Co-Speaker, "Insurance Coverage – Fundamentals and Hot Topics," Multnomah Bar Association (2012)
- Speaker, "Coverage Issues in the Mediation of Construction Defect Claims," Oregon Association of Defense Counsel (OADC) Convention on Coverage Issues in the Mediation of Construction Defect Claims (2005)
- Co-Author, "Summary Analysis Of (A Few) Insurance Coverage Issues Arising in Mediation of Construction Defect Cases" (2005)
- Author & Speaker, "GL Coverage 'B' – Personal Injury Coverage," Oregon Association of Defense Counsel (OADC) (2001)
- Co-Author, "'Other Insurance' Clauses" Chapter in *Recurring Issues in Insurance Disputes*, American Bar Association (1996)
- Chapter Author, "Environmental Law for Oregon Practitioners,"

- Oregon Law Institute (1995)
- Co-Author, "Insurance Coverage for Environmental Claims,"
Defense Research Institute (DRI), Section on Liability Coverage
(1995)