

**LADC Insurance Practice Group Zoom Webinar**

**October 30, 2025 – 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| TIME | TOPIC | SPEAKER | CLE CREDIT |
| 12 noon am – 1:00 pm | Tips and Tricks for Defending Against Excessive ‘Mitigation Claims’ in First-Party Property Insurance | Stephen F. Butterfield, Taylor Wellons  Shawn A. Cusimano, West Coast Claims Management | 1.0 |

Topic Objective: This CLE will focus on effective strategies for defending against excessive or unnecessary charges from third-party mitigation companies for water and mold remediation or restoration following a loss.

Speakers

Stephen F. Butterfield is a Partner in the Covington office of Taylor, Wellons, Politz & Duhe, and the current chair of LADC’s Insurance Law Practice Group. His areas of practice include insurance coverage and bad faith, commercial, construction, professional liability, and general liability matters.

Shawn Cusimano is a seasoned construction, and property claims expert with nearly two decades of experience specializing in flood, wind, and catastrophe-related damages. As the Founder and CEO of West Coast Claims Management Inc., he leads a team that provides forensic evaluations, expert consulting, and litigation support for complex property insurance claims across the country.

He holds certifications from the IICRC in Water Damage Restoration, Applied Structural Drying, and is a Journeyman Water Restorer. He is also a Certified Mold Remediator, a Certified General Adjuster, and a licensed Louisiana Commercial General Contractor. Shawn is Xactimate X1 Level 3 Mastery certified and has written thousands of estimates throughout his career.

Shawn has served as a trusted advisor and testifying expert in hundreds of mediations and claim disputes, with multiple insurance companies for both Liability and Property Claims. His expertise in damage assessment and claim resolution has made him a respected voice in the construction and mitigation industries.