

Charles A. Henty

Shareholder

Charlie litigates and advises clients regarding coverage disputes arising out of first and third-party claims. His experience ranges from representing insurers in multi-party disputes in environmental and mass tort insurance coverage to providing advice in disputes with individual insureds under homeowners and automobile policies.

Charlie has co-authored chapters of the LexisNexis Practice Guide: Washington Insurance Litigation regarding property insurance and the rescission of insurance policies based on misrepresentations made by the policyholder in obtaining a policy.

In 2017, Charlie spent an extended period of time on secondment with a London Market Insurance Company in which he worked directly with leading claims personnel in the handling of asbestos, environmental, and health hazard claims for assureds throughout the United States

PRACTICE EMPHASIS AND EXPERIENCE

- Appeals
- Environmental Defense
- Environmental Insurance Coverage
- General Liability Defense
- Insurance Coverage Analysis & Litigation

REPRESENTATIVE CASES

- Represented insurers who issued policies with combined liability limits in excess of \$50 million in multiparty contribution lawsuit regarding potential coverage for over 1,000 toxic tort claims and environmental claims arising out of polluted sites across the country. A seven week jury trial resulted in a partial defense verdict, with the jury concluding that the pollution exclusions in various policies precluded coverage for the environmental claims. The plaintiff insurer filed an interlocutory appeal seeking reversal of the pollution exclusion verdict, and our client's cross-assigned error to the denial of a directed verdict motion regarding the viability of all of the plaintiff's contribution claims. The appellate court ruled in favor of our clients, holding that the trial court erred by denying the motion for directed verdict.



CONTACT

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EDUCATION

J.D., UCLA School of Law, 2007
B.A., Cornell University, 2003

BAR / COURT ADMISSIONS

State of Washington
State of Oregon
U. S. District Court, Western District of Washington
U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

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- Obtained very favorable settlement in dispute involving parallel lawsuits in two states regarding insurance coverage for insured's alleged liability (claimed to be in excess of \$100 million) at several polluted sites around the country
- Represented insurers who issued policies with combined liability limits in excess of \$100 million in a lawsuit regarding a nine figure pollution liability at the Portland Harbor Superfund Site and several other environmental sites.
- Obtained very favorable settlement in dispute involving parallel lawsuits in two states regarding insurance coverage for insured's alleged liability (claimed to be in excess of \$100 million) at several polluted sites around the country.

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

- Washington State Bar Association
- King County Bar Association

ARTICLES & PRESENTATIONS

- Co-author: Chapter of the *LexisNexis Practice Guide: Washington Insurance Litigation* regarding the rescission of insurance policies based on misrepresentations made by the policyholder in obtaining a policy; "The Insurance Application and the Insurer's Remedies for Misrepresentation," November 2014