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THE OFFICIAL GUIDE TO LEGAL REPRESENTATION

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## WILLIAM F. "CHIP" MERLIN, JR.

William F. "Chip" Merlin, Jr. represents and advocates for policyholders both in and outside of the courtroom. His practice focuses on insurance claim presentation and benefit recovery, insurance coverage, bad faith and insurance litigation for commercial, governmental, residential and private policyholders. He currently holds bar licenses in Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Texas, Tennessee, the District of Columbia, New Jersey, New York, Illinois, Oklahoma, and California.

He is a graduate of the University of Florida School of Law, and president of Merlin Law Group which has offices in Tampa, Coral Gables, and West Palm Beach, Florida; Houston, Texas; Scottsdale, Arizona; Los Angeles, California; Red Bank, New Jersey; New York, New York; and Denver, Colorado. Chip is routinely invited to be a featured speaker at some of the nation's most prestigious conferences held by the American Bar Association, the American Association for Justice, and industry-related organizations such as NAPIA, TAPIA, FAPIA, and the Windstorm Network. Chip is frequently sought to provide insight into current legal issues in national media. He is also a contributor to the firm's daily blog on property insurance law, [PropertyInsuranceCoverageLaw.com](http://PropertyInsuranceCoverageLaw.com).



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I represent corporations, corporate directors and officers, small businesses, and individuals in their disputes with insurance companies. Over the last 10 years I have recovered millions of dollars for policyholders when insurance companies wrongfully denied claims in all types of insurance disputes.

I primarily sue insurance companies when they do not honor their coverage obligations or deny claims in bad faith. I also handle most other business litigation matters including claims for breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, and related business torts. My clients have routinely recovered six figure settlements on commercial and personal property losses and I have represented many directors and officers after bank failures here in Georgia. I look forward to helping you and your clients.



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## CHAR HAMILTON YOSHIDA & SHIMOMOTO

Char Hamilton Yoshida & Shimomoto is the leading provider of captive insurance legal services in Hawai'i. The firm's experienced attorneys have built a global network of clients and colleagues that ensure each client receives superior legal representation and personalized service. Our attorneys represent clients in a vast array of industries and core businesses, many of whom are Fortune and Global 500 companies.

The firm's captive insurance practice handles a wide variety of related matters, including captive formations (i.e., "pure", risk retention groups, and other group captives), conversions, mergers, liquidations, redemptions, coverage matters, policy drafting, and reinsurance trusts. We also assist clients with diverse corporate transactions, corporate governance and best practice issues, and other general insurance regulatory matters to ensure that your captive insurance business complies with applicable law and regulations. To serve the firm's global captive insurance clients more effectively, the firm has Japanese language capabilities.

Gerald C. Yoshida and Paul B. Shimomoto specialize in the formation and representation of captive insurance companies and risk retention groups and other insurance regulatory matters in the State of Hawaii. Both maintain "AV- Preeminent" ratings from Martindale Hubbell.

Over the years, Hawai'i has become the premier captive domicile of the Pacific, measured in terms of the number of captives formed and managed, the supporting infrastructure available and premium underwritten. Many of the world's largest and reputable companies have formed and operate their captive insurance companies in Hawai'i. Hawai'i is served by direct flights from 23 major US and 27 international destinations, making it a strategic and easily accessible location in which to domicile your captive insurance company.



Gerald Yoshida



Paul Shimomoto

**CHY&S**

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## Texas Can Be A Dangerous Place...



## Unless You Know The Territory.

**T**exas is a dangerous place for insurers, but we know the territory!

We represent some of the largest insurance companies in the world in high stakes litigation. We have earned the respect and recognition within the Texas legal community for our ability to handle a wide variety of complex coverage and bad faith cases.

Our lawyers have literally reshaped and redefined the parameters of Texas law. Through numerous cases in the trial and appellate courts of Texas, including the Texas Supreme Court and the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, our lawyers have enjoyed an amazing string of victories in both the state and federal court systems. For example, our firm has been recognized as the top

insurance litigation firm in Texas by *Chambers USA* for the last 13 consecutive years. Many of our partners have been consistently recognized as Texas "Super Lawyers" by *Texas Monthly Magazine*. Most importantly, dozens of our firm's insurance clients "vote" their preference by consistently making our firm their "Go To" litigation firm in Texas when they are sued for bad faith.

Our firm is unique because of the people we employ and the results we deliver. Across several legal disciplines, our partners have achieved both state and national recognition for their substantive knowledge of the law and their courtroom skills in winning cases.

Our lawyers literally "wrote the book" on Texas Insurance Law. Let us show what we can do for you.



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**CALIFORNIA** NEWPORT BEACH

## ROBERT J. MCKENNON

Mr. McKennon, the founding shareholder of McKennon Law Group PC, is a nationally recognized expert in insurance litigation and has litigated hundreds of insurance matters, including life, health and disability insurance, insurance bad faith, unfair trade practices, and ERISA/employee benefits. He is also widely recognized as being among the top insurance litigators in California, receiving numerous recognitions as a top insurance attorney, including being named a Southern California Super Lawyer® from 2011 to 2016 and receiving the highest ratings possible by AVVO and Martindale-Hubbell.

Robert McKennon spent almost 25 years representing insurance companies. During that time, he also served as a guest speaker at local and national conferences concerning life, health, disability, and ERISA issues, and chaired numerous national conferences on these topics. He has authored numerous articles and book material on insurance matters. Mr. McKennon and his firm now represent individual and business policyholders, challenging the same insurance industry he previously represented.

Mr. McKennon and his attorneys now use their considerable skills, knowledge and experience to help people like the dental hygienist, the small business owner and the lawyer take on powerful insurance companies and fight for their benefits. After years of representing policyholders, Mr. McKennon is now well-known for his tenacity in helping them fight for their insurance benefits. He believes his firm is so successful because "we litigate aggressively, we provide top quality work and we are not afraid to take insurers to trial."

The McKennon Law Group PC also represents businesses and individuals in connection with their property and casualty, general commercial liability, directors and officers or other business insurance policies.



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## FLORIDA TAMPA

## TED A. CORLESS

**A**t Corless Barfield Trial Group, our firm brings extensive experience and a unique approach to each case we handle. Recognized as one of the leading insurance litigation lawyers in Florida, founding attorney Ted A. Corless formerly represented some of the most powerful insurance companies in the state and currently uses that inside experience to assist property owners and personal injury victims in recovering compensation for their losses.



Corless routinely shares his experience and knowledge by authoring articles, giving television interviews and presenting lectures throughout the United States on a range of legal topics, including insurance coverage, complex expert testimony and insurance bad faith. He is licensed to practice law in Florida and Missouri and has received an AV peer review rating\* through the Martindale-Hubbell system. Further, Corless is a member of the American Society of Trial Consultants.



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