

Douglas K. Wood

Doug is a Martindale-Hubbell “AV-Preeminent” rated trial attorney who has been repeatedly named by his peers and Judges as a “Top Rated Insurance Lawyer”, one of the “Bay Area’s Best Insurance Lawyers”, and one of Northern California’s “Super Lawyers” (a Thomson Reuters distinction honoring the top 5% of lawyers in the region as selected by other lawyers and Judges).

Doug is a Member in Clark Hill’s San Francisco office. Doug’s practice encompasses the full spectrum of complex property and casualty insurance coverage issues, disputes, and litigation, including difficult cases arising out of arson fires and suspected fraudulent claims. During his 32+ years of practice, Doug has successfully defended clients in many such cases through trial and appeal. Doug also has litigated premises liability cases, insurance subrogation cases, real estate actions, products liability cases, construction defect cases, and general business disputes.

Doug is an avid instrument rated private pilot who delights in saving his clients’ money by flying himself in “Black Beauty” – his turbo-normalized 1979 Beechcraft Bonanza A36 – to depositions, loss scenes, client meetings, and court appearances all over the western states. In addition to flying Black Beauty for business, Doug has also been involved as a lawyer in claims and litigation arising out of aircraft incidents and accidents, as well as aircraft purchase/sale transactions, and airport premises liability cases (including cases for the San Francisco International Airport). As a pilot and aircraft owner for over 20 of his 32 years as a lawyer, Doug is well familiar with the maze of specialized documentation, regulations, and laws that govern all things aviation, as well as the insurance aspects that often are involved.

Doug gained early trial experience serving the People of California as a Deputy District Attorney for the County of Alameda. He tried his first Insurance Bad Faith case decades ago, and has been litigating and trying cases involving insurance coverage and Bad Faith, commercial business disputes, various torts, and liability defense ever since.

During law school, Doug served as an Editor and Member of the Hastings Law Journal, and worked as an extern law clerk for the Honorable Eugene F. Lynch, U.S. District Court, Northern District of California. Later, while practicing law full time, Doug also served for several years as an Adjunct Professor of Law for the University of California’s Hastings College of the Law, teaching Trial Evidence and Advocacy.

Doug is well published, having co-authored five Chapters in a leading legal treatise “California Property Insurance: Law and Litigation”, a Chapter in “Scientific Evidence and Expert Testimony”, and several other publications. He also instructs and presents regularly to clients and industry groups. Doug has been presenting at PLRB National Conferences for over two decades, and was honored by PLRB in 2012 with an “Outstanding Presentations Award”.

For additional information, please see: <http://www.clarkhill.com/people/douglas-k-wood>