



Gregory D. Podolak Vice Chair

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📍 Florida



Biography

Gregory D. Podolak is the founding Partner of the Florida office and a member of the Global Board of Directors. He is a nationally recognized insurance coverage and risk transfer attorney whose more than 20-year career has been devoted exclusively to representing corporate policyholders. A longtime leader within the firm, Greg helped establish and expand SDV Fenchurch's presence in Florida and today maintains a national practice serving organizations across a broad range of industries.

Known for his strategic and practical approach, Greg advises businesses on complex insurance, risk management, and recovery matters, helping clients align legal, operational, and financial objectives. He is frequently engaged as a trusted advisor during the earliest stages of significant claims and risk-related events, providing guidance that combines deep technical knowledge with sound business judgment.

Greg is also widely recognized as a thought leader in the insurance and risk management community. He regularly publishes and speaks on insurance coverage and risk transfer issues, collaborates with leading brokers and industry organizations, and serves as a contributing columnist for IRMI. In recognition of his contributions to the field, he was elected a Fellow of the American College of Coverage Counsel, an invitation-only organization composed of leading lawyers, judges, and academics dedicated to advancing the practice of insurance law. His professional accomplishments have earned numerous distinctions, including recognition as a Distinguished Leader by the Daily Business Review and repeated honors from Super Lawyers. Greg is known for thoughtful advocacy, practical problem-solving, and a steadfast commitment to achieving favorable outcomes for his clients.

Education

Quinnipiac School of Law, Juris Doctorate, cum laude
Iona University, Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude

Memberships and Affiliations

American College of Coverage Counsel (ACCC)
American Bar Association, Computer Technology Subcommittee
American Bar Association, Construction Subcommittee
American Bar Association, Emerging Issues Subcommittee, Co-Chair
American Bar Association, Property Insurance Subcommittee
American Bar Association, Insurance Litigation Committee
Connecticut Bar Association, Committee on Insurance Programs for the Law
Connecticut Bar Association, Insurance Law Section, Executive Committee
Connecticut Bar Association, Insurance Law Section, Secretary and CLE Co-Chair
Connecticut Bar Association, Statewide Mentoring Program, Mentor
Connecticut Bar Association, Young Lawyers Section, Executive Committee Member (2009-2012)
Connecticut Bar Association, Young Lawyers Section, Insurance, Co-Chair (2009-2012)
Connecticut Bar Association, Young Lawyers Section, New Haven Local Chapter, Chair (2009-2010)
Collier County Bar Association

Experience

Greg's practice encompasses virtually every line of commercial insurance coverage, including builders risk, commercial general liability, property, business interruption, directors and officers liability, and cyber-related risks. He counsels clients on insurance program design, contractual risk transfer, claim presentation, coverage disputes, and appellate matters, helping organizations maximize the value of their insurance assets while effectively managing risk.

Over the course of his career, Greg has represented policyholders in some of their most significant and high-stakes matters, including catastrophic construction losses, major property damage events, government investigations, cyber incidents, and high-exposure liability claims. His litigation and appellate experience includes landmark cases involving additional insured coverage, construction defect insurance, builders risk recovery, and other issues that have shaped insurance law in multiple jurisdictions.

In addition to litigating complex coverage disputes, Greg works closely with clients, risk managers, and insurance professionals to develop sophisticated risk transfer strategies and pursue complex insurance recoveries. His experience spans both proactive risk management and successful advocacy in precedent-setting insurance matters, making him a trusted resource for corporate executives and industry stakeholders nationwide.

Memberships and Affiliations continued

Collier County Building Industry Association
Florida Bar Association
Naples Chamber of Commerce
New York State Bar Association
Risk and Insurance Management Society (RIMS),
Fairfield/Westchester Chapter
Risk and Insurance Management Society (RIMS),
Southwest Florida Chapter

Achievements

Thomson Reuters, Stand-Out Lawyer, 2024-2025
Best Lawyers® in America – Litigation – Insurance,
2024-2026
Distinguished Leader Honoree, Daily Business Review,
2023
Rising Star, Connecticut Super Lawyers, 2012-2021
Rising Star, Florida Super Lawyers, 2018-2021
Super Lawyer, Florida Super Lawyers, 2022
Top Lawyers – Insurance Law, Naples Illustrated,
2023-2025

Admissions

Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina,
New York, Virginia
U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut
U.S. District Court, District of Colorado
U.S. District Court, Middle District of Florida
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Florida
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Georgia
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
U.S. District Court, District of Maryland
U.S. District Court, Western District of North Carolina
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York
U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York



Admissions continued

U.S. District Court, Western District of New York
U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit

