

Property Insurance

RELATED SERVICES

- Insurance
- London Market

CONTACTS

Matthew S. Foy

Partner

Craig A. Jacobson

Partner

C. Tyler Havey

Partner

OVERVIEW

The convergence of technology, the economy, and an increasingly sophisticated policyholders' bar has fostered an increasingly fast-paced and complex claims environment. GRSM attorneys provide sophisticated and cutting-edge legal counsel, nationally, on the full range of property insurance issues.

Our lawyers handle issues that include:

- Policy formation and drafting
- Scope of coverage
- Cause of loss
- Compliance with conditions, protective safeguards and other policy requirements
- Claim valuation
- Claims handling
- Business interruption and contingent business interruption claims
- Issues regarding bankruptcy, liquidation and mortgagees

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Serve as National Coordinating and Litigation Counsel for insurer clients in COVID-19 litigation.
- Secured a decisive victory in a high-stakes first-party coverage dispute related to the COVID-19

pandemic and related stay-at-home orders. The policy in question included interpreting non-standard Civil Authority provisions. We successfully argued that the policy's requirement for a "complete interruption of operations" mandated a total cessation of all activities. The court sided with our client, concluding that the insured's continued online services and donation programs did not meet this threshold, resulting in a dismissal of the insured's bad faith suit.

- Provided coverage analysis and acted as litigation counsel in a \$160 million property claim arising from Hurricane Katrina, resulting in a favorable settlement before trial. The coverage issues included flood versus wind causation, business interruption, extra expense, ensuing loss, civil authority and number of occurrences.
- Obtained summary judgment on behalf of a primary insurer on a claim involving lost electronic data and damage to computer servers and related hardware, enforcing an exclusion for loss caused by changes in or extremes in temperature.
- Obtained a defense verdict on behalf of a primary insurer in a dispute with a supermarket chain owner-operator over the interpretation and application of a policy exclusion for loss or damage caused by off-premises power outages.
- Successfully represented a U.S. insurer in connection with a \$20 million claim involving Chinese drywall at a Florida condominium complex.