



Professional Background Gary Western

Gary Western's trial practice focuses on a broad range of litigation representing individuals, businesses, and insurers in bodily injury and property damage claims as well as insurance coverage and extra-contractual matters. Gary handles all aspects of litigation including trials, arbitrations, mediations, discovery, and coverage opinions. He has tried or arbitrated cases in most western Washington counties. Gary is responsible for cases from a number of insurers, including Austin Mutual, North Pointe, Ameriprise, Motorists, Kemper, Burlington, and Country Companies.

EDUCATION

University of Minnesota School of Law – J.D., *cum laude*, 1982; award for outstanding oral argument in Moot Court competition

Moorhead State University – B.A. in Communications/English, *magna cum laude*, 1979

BAR ADMISSIONS

Washington State Bar Association
US District Court, Eastern and Western Districts of Washington

NOTABLE RESULTS

Trial counsel for Defendants in two trespass, nuisance, and wetlands damage claims. Defense verdicts in both trials.

Trial counsel for UIM insurer in injury claim for multiple accidents. Jury award was less than the amount Plaintiff received from the at-fault parties, therefore no UIM money owed.

Defended product liability claim by two insurers who paid over \$300,000 for flood damage due to leaking clothes washing machine hose. After a one-week trial, the jury returned a defense verdict.

Defended a dairy farmer against a neighbor's claim that the use of fertilizers, noise, and dust constituted a nuisance and a trespass onto plaintiff's property. Plaintiff

demanded \$225,000 to settle. After a two-week trial, the jury returned a defense verdict.

Represented an equestrian center against claims by the estate of a child who died in a horse riding accident. The case was dismissed on summary judgment under Washington's Equine Liability Statute.

Trial counsel for a boat dealership that was sued when a woman fell out of her seat hitting her face during a boat sales demonstration ride. After a two-week trial, the jury returned a defense verdict.

Obtained Summary Judgments dismissing cases against clients in claims involving chemical exposure, fibromyalgia, defamation, construction site accidents, and extra-contractual claims.

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

Washington Defense Trial Lawyers
Claims & Litigation Management Alliance
International Amusement & Leisure Defense Association
King County Mandatory Arbitration Arbitrator often hired in UIM arbitrations

PERSONAL

My goal on each case is to work cooperatively with opposing counsel to reach a prompt, fair, and economical resolution. Often the eventual result is clear early on in the case. Rather than engage in needless and expensive discovery battles, I work with clients, insurers, and opposing counsel on ending the litigation fairly without unnecessary expense and delay.