



Meet Our Berkley Specialty Claims Team



Hedy Linette Ranieri, Senior Vice President
Chief Claims Officer

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H. Linette Ranieri has over 38 years of experience in the property and casualty insurance industry. Before joining Berkley, Linette held positions with several insurance carriers, including the position of Director with a major insurance company where she managed Medical Malpractice and Environmental Program claims on a national basis. Her diverse experience also includes handling, supervising, and managing complex property and casualty claims as well as toxic tort, environmental, asbestos, employment practices, directors and officers, professional liability, personal lines, and automobile claims. Linette is a member of the Claim and Litigation Management Alliance, where she serves as Co-Dean of Casualty Claims at CLM's Claims College. She is a member of CLM's Nuclear Verdict Task Force and is a frequent speaker at CLM and the Litigation Management Alliance. Linette is a graduate of East Carolina University, where she received a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health.



David Bryton, Vice President
Senior Claims Counsel

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David Bryton has over 20 years of experience in the insurance industry, both as a practicing lawyer and in-house claims professional. David began his career in 1993, practicing law for several years with a Washington DC law firm where he specialized in surety law and commercial litigation. He later became Managing Claims Counsel for a major insurance company where he managed high exposure design professional and construction claims, as well as complex coverage matters. David joined the Berkley organization in 2013 and is currently involved in all aspects of Berkley Technology's claim department, with a particular emphasis on E&O, Cyber and Data Privacy Protection, and complex CGL matters. David received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from SUNY Binghamton (now Binghamton University) and his J.D. from The George Washington University Law School, where he was a member of The George Washington Law Review.



Steven Velardi, Assistant Vice President
Claims Manager - Property, Auto, General Liability

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Steven Velardi has over 10 years of experience in the insurance and legal industry. He began his career as a plaintiff attorney and most recently worked at a national insurance carrier. He has a very diverse portfolio of claim experience including primary and excess casualty claims, environmental and allied health, and life sciences and medical devices. Steven graduated from Quinnipiac University and obtained his law degree from Quinnipiac University School of Law.



Andy Herbert, Assistant Vice President
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Andy Herbert has over 32 years of experience in the property and casualty industry, focusing solely on Workers Compensation. He began his career at several major insurance companies where he held various positions including field investigator, court negotiator and claims supervisor of the New Jersey Workers Compensation claims unit. He also supervised the Mid-Atlantic and Southeastern Workers Compensation teams. Prior to working at Berkley, Mr. Herbert worked as a Senior Claim Officer of a multi-national insurance company, where he supervised the New Jersey Workers Compensation unit. He also spent five years in their Workers Compensation Special Investigative Unit. He is a graduate of Shippensburg University where he received a Bachelor of Science in Business Management.



John Swain, Assistant Vice President
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John Swain has over 21 years of experience in the property and casualty insurance industry. John started his career working for one of the world's largest third-party claims administrators where he held various positions including Senior Claims Representative and Supervisor. In these roles, he investigated and resolved litigated auto, general liability, and product claims. He also served as a Claims Branch Manager for a staff responsible for handling auto, general liability, and product claims for a Fortune 100 company. Prior to working at Berkley, he was a Senior Account Executive with a third party administrator where he managed the oversight of workers' compensation, auto, and general liability claims. He is a graduate of Winona State University and holds a Bachelor of Science degree.