

ACE Conference

By: Lauren D. Wilkins, Esq.

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On behalf of Smith & Brink PC, we are proud to announce that Douglas Jackson, President of Southwest Claims Service has been named Claim Professional of the Year at the 2008 ACE Conference. Mr. Jackson is the consummate claims professional who is a strong advocate of adjuster training and leads by example. Congratulations Doug for a job well done!

On June 11, 2008, Lauren Wilkins moderated a seminar at the 2008 ACE Convention in Orlando Florida entitled Streamlining Claims Litigation Management For Reduced Cost and Improved Outcomes. Ms. Wilkins had the pleasure of serving as moderator on a panel comprised of Sue Ellen Salsbury, Corporate Claims Attorney, Progressive Insurance; Jacqueline K. Gallagher, Partner, Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel LLP; and Kevin Quinley, CPCU, AIC, Vice President, Advisory Board, Council on Litigation Management. The seminar focused on streamlining claims litigation management for reduced costs and improving outcomes. The panel addressed the fact that litigation costs have a way of spiraling out of control and what should insurance carriers do in order to avoid having spent more on defense than the original demand.

The panel agreed that it is important to hire the lawyer who is best suited for the work. If you do choose to have bills reviewed by third parties, it must be recognized that cost management can benefit both sides as long as the carriers provide counsel with clear and concise guidelines as they relate to case management and analyze all cases for the appropriateness of alternative dispute resolution in order to save legal costs and pick the right attorney for the right case.

If you have any questions, please contact Lauren D. Wilkins, Esquire at (401) 351-9970 or lwilkins@smithbrink.com.

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