



**Laurie C. Barbe** | Member

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**LICENSURE** WV  
**EDUCATION** J.D. West Virginia University

Laurie Barbe represents insurance companies in response to first and third party insurance claims and defends individuals and businesses in claims involving personal injury, wrongful death, products liability and property damage. She has also been involved in appellate proceedings before the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia and the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. She is co-leader of the firm's Insurance Company Team.

### REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Has issued coverage opinions and litigated coverage issues on a variety of commercial property and liability claims, including claims for business interruption coverage

Provided assistance to insurance companies writing new business in West Virginia to assure their policies are in compliance with applicable laws and regulations

Prepared coverage opinions and defended insurers in West Virginia state and federal declaratory judgment actions involving claims arising under personal, commercial, excess, and surplus lines policies

Handled investigations and defense of insurers in suspected arson and fraud claims

Provided general insurance counseling and training to insurance companies about claim handling and avoiding claims of "bad faith"

Defended and mediated claims alleging statutory "bad faith" and breach of contract

Represented insurers in arbitration proceedings involving claims for surplus lines coverage arising from mining accidents

Defended insurer in a first-party bad faith trial arising from processing of credit disability claim

Represented insurers in defense of uninsured and underinsured motorist claims

### WORK EXPERIENCE

1990 Steptoe & Johnson PLLC

1988-1990 Clerk, The Honorable Robert B. Stone, Judge of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit of West Virginia

## **MEMBERSHIPS AND AWARDS**

### **PROFESSIONAL**

Defense Research Institute

- Membership Committee
- Program Vice-Chair - Bad Faith Seminar
- Insurance Law Committee
- Co-Chair Personal Lines Committee
- SIU/Fraud Committee
- Steering Committee for 2016 ICCI Seminar
- Marketing Committee for 2014 ICP Seminar
- West Virginia State Representative (2014-2017)

Defense Trial Counsel of West Virginia

- Past President (2013-2014)
- Board Member (2002-2017)
- 2016 President's Award
- Insurance Law Committee

Property & Liability Resource Bureau

West Virginia Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators

Best Lawyers® 2021 Morgantown, WV Litigation - Insurance, Lawyer of the Year

Best Lawyers® 2020 Morgantown, WV Insurance Law, Lawyer of the Year

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### **INDUSTRY/CIVIC**

Member: St. John Parish Pastoral Council

Past Member: Greater Morgantown Heart Walk Executive Leadership Team

Past Board Member: River Valley Chapter, American Red Cross