

BOOK REVIEW
PREVENTION AND LITIGATION OF INSURANCE BAD FAITH CLAIMS

The difficulty in reviewing a reference text like Dennis Wall's *Prevention and Litigation of Insurance Bad Faith Claims* is that it is nearly impossible to pick it up and read it from cover to cover, as you would expository non-fiction or a novel. The true measure of the reference text is how much and how often it is used. The only method to determine a book's usefulness is to do just that - use it.

When I received a copy of the book, I set it on my credenza and turned to it when I thought it might apply. It served well beyond the limited scope indicated by its title. The book is well thought-out, well organized, and very well researched and written. After the first two or three times I used it for quick citations to bad faith case law, I found myself looking to it for cites for procedural and substantive insurance jurisprudence.

The more I used it for this purpose, the more I found myself using Wall's practice tips and insights. After I gained confidence in the book, I used it not only as a starting point for research, but as a stand-alone source - a coverage associate sitting on my bookshelf. Often more familiar reference texts find their way to my shelves - *Wint's Insurance Claims and Disputes*, *Keaton's Insurance*, *Appleman's Insurance Law and Practice*. These well-fulfill the role of quick references to procedural and substantive law, but when I am limited to taking one general insurance text to court or on the road - as I often am - due to space considerations - I now take Wall's text.

Indeed, when I was trapped at a recent family gathering for a week, I was able to write one of my better briefs on estoppel and waiver, using only Wall.

In sum, the book has earned the highest recommendation I can give - I use it.

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