

# FORCON INTERNATIONAL

**MICHAEL J. SUGAR, JR., ESQ.**

## **SUMMARY**

Mr. Sugar was responsible for the administrative and technical aspects of claim coordination on consulting projects. With over 45 years' experience working with and providing consultation services to insurance companies, adjusting companies, law firms, public and private entities involving property, casualty, fidelity, surety and construction matters. Mr. Sugar's expertise includes ten years as a Manager and Bonds Claim Attorney, where he was responsible for the investigation and resolution of all types of surety and fidelity claims. He also spent a few years as a surety and fidelity underwriter, giving him a sound knowledge on the handling of claims administration.

## **EDUCATION**

School of Ceramic Engineering - Alfred University  
SUNY at Buffalo - B.A. Degree  
SUNY at Buffalo - School of Law - Juris Doctor Degree

## **CONTINUING EDUCATION**

Courses and Certifications completed in the following areas:

Hunter College - Numerous Credits in Accounting, Continuing Legal Education, ABA Programs

## **ASSOCIATIONS/MEMBERSHIPS**

- Member of State of Florida Bar Association
- Member of District of Columbia Bar Association (Inactive)
- Member of Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Bar Association (Inactive)
- Member of American Bar Association
- Member of Tort & Insurance Committee of ABA
- Member of the Fidelity & Surety Law Committee
- Past Member of Construction Forum
- Past Member of the American Specialty Surety Council
- Member of the Executive Board of the Outback Bowl
- Outback Bowl - Past Chair

## **CAREER HISTORY**

### **FORCON International – Director**

Providing advice specializing in the investigation of property casualty, fidelity and surety claims. Assisting Companies in setting up Corporate procedures for claims and underwriting procedures. Responsible for the establishment of nine (9) corporate offices nationwide specializing in Surety and Fidelity claims handling and third party claims administration.

### **Hudson International - Surety and Fidelity Division**

Responsible for day to day activities of claims investigations and coordination between client and company.

**Fidelity and Deposit Company - Manager and Claims Attorney** with supervision over other claims attorneys and numerous offices. Duties involved:

- **Investigation of Performance and Subdivision Bond Claims** - Negotiations with obligees, principals, indemnitors, architects and engineers of record, investigation of status of job, investigation of errors and omissions in the plans and specifications and investigation of financial status of job. Interaction with Underwriters for issuance of bonding. Bonding evaluation.

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- **Investigation of Payment Bond Claims** - Investigation of status of purchase orders/subcontracts, negotiation for claim settlement, interpretation of bond and statutory language of payment bonds.
- **Investigation of Fidelity and Directors and Officers Claims** – Investigation of accounting verification-negotiations for claim settlement.
- **Subrogation** - Negotiations with Principal and Indemnitors regarding collateral or repayment, auctions of assets, suits against other responsible parties. Review of financial statements. Review of Third Party contribution.
- **Investigation of Fidelity Bond Claims** - Small business and commercial.
- **Third Party Claims Administrator**
- **Expert Witness**

## **Hartford Insurance Group - Underwriter**

Responsible for production and profitability of underwritten lines of business specializing in Surety & Fidelity bonds.

## **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

- Speaker before joint session of Public Contract Law Section and the Fidelity & Surety Law Committee, Williamsburg, Virginia.
- Speaker at the Surety Institute.
- Speaker at the Southern Surety & Fidelity Claims Conferences.
- Speaker at the Associated Builders and Contractors Seminar.
- Speaker at the Northeast Surety and Fidelity Claims Conferences.
- Speaker at the National Bond Association.
- Speaker before the U.S. Congress Committee regarding Bonding.
- Speaker at ABA Midwinter meeting - Subject – Mediation.
- Speaker at ABA Back to Basics Chair - National Bond Default Manual Meeting.
- Speaker at the Southern Surety & Fidelity Claims Conference - Handling Subdivision Claims.
- Speaker at the ABA Spring Meeting Complex Litigation.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Michael J. Sugar, Jr., "*Tips for the Surety Claims Handler - Sugar's Safe Seven*", 10th Annual Southern Surety & Fidelity Claims Conference.

*Back to Basics* - Bond Default Manual