

**2021 WEBINAR SERIES:  
D&O: EMERGING TRENDS AND CHALLENGES IN A  
HARD MARKET, hosted by WSIA's U40**



## **BIOGRAPHIES**

### **PANELISTS**



**PAUL BUNONE**

**AmTrust EXEC | Vice President**

Paul Bunone is Vice President of AmTrust EXEC, a managing general agency focused on the marketing and underwriting of management liability products. Paul began his career in underwriting management liability lines and professional E&O coverages, and ultimately started three separate management liability programs, most recently Euclid Executive Liability Managers in 2005, which was recently acquired by their carrier – Amtrust.

Prior to the formation of Euclid Exec, Paul was responsible for the U.S. wholesale distribution of middle market management liability products for Beazley Insurance Company. Inc., as well as the management of Beazley's "non-standard/ hard to place" management liability book of business. Prior to joining Beazley, Paul co-founded and managed Crum and Forster's Professional Liability department after spending the prior 16 years at a managing general agency.

Paul earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Montclair State University. He has a NJ State Producers license and a Registered Professional Liability Underwriter designation from the Professional Liability Underwriting Society.



**JAVIER GONZALEZ**

**PL Risk Advisors | Executive Vice President of Sales**

Javier Gonzalez is the Executive Vice President of Sales at PL Risk Advisors. He is a professional and management liability insurance broker specializing in Errors and Omissions (E&O), Directors and Officers (D&O), Employment Practice Liability (EPLI), Cyber liability for public, private corporations nationwide. His clientele includes Insurance Professionals, Technology Companies, Financial Institutions, Commercial Real Estate Agents/Brokers, REITs, TPAs, Architects/Engineers, Accountants, Lawyers, Healthcare, and others.

Since early 2005 Javier has helped simplify a market of complicated insurance products to make purchasing insurance an easier process. He is the Executive Vice President of Sales for both Axis Insurance Services and PL Risk and is responsible for the overall direction and supervision of the company's sales force.

He was awarded the honor of being named as a member of the inaugural 40 Under 40 Broker Leader in the US by Business Insurance in 2013. Reactions Magazine's December 2013/January 2014 edition listed Javier as one of the top 50 Rising Stars in the Insurance Industry. Axis Management Group Holdings, Inc. announced Javier as a partner in 2013. He holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Fordham University.



## **MIKE SMITH**

**Axis Insurance Services, LLC and PL Risk Advisors, Inc. | President**

Mike is the founder and President of Axis Insurance Services, LLC and PL Risk Advisors, Inc. both nationally recognized Professional and Management Liability insurance brokerages. With over 25 years of experience in the industry, he brings a wealth of knowledge and a unique ability to create innovative coverage solutions.

In 1999, Mike founded Axis Insurance Services, LLC to provide customized Professional Liability solutions for business and in 2012, and he formed PL Risk Advisors, Inc. to create a presence in the wholesale E&O market. Today, both companies are successful across the areas of Errors and Omissions liability,

Directors and Officers liability, Commercial Crime, EPLI, and Cyber liability.

Formerly a CPA audit manager at Coopers & Lybrand, Mike managed audit and consulting services for insurance and healthcare clients. He specialized in mergers and acquisitions and insurance company liquidations. At Medical Inter-Insurance Exchange (MIIX), a medical malpractice carrier, Mike assisted the company in mergers and acquisitions and development of numerous insurance programs. Later, as the Chief Financial and Operations Officer of a related company, he built a physician-owned insurance carrier from the ground up, including hiring, systems development, licensing, and marketing.