

Forensic Accounting & Complex Claims Hurricane Laura

August 2020

Help clients plan for and resolve complex claims resulting from large scale disasters.

Willis Towers Watson has a team of highly qualified experts as part of its Risk & Analytics practice. The practice includes many disciplines that provide solutions to issues that are critical to our clients. Included in this group is Forensic Accounting & Complex Claims (FACC), a global practice consisting of certified public accountants, forensic accountants, certified fraud examiners, project managers, and engineering and construction consultants, with colleagues residing in multiple offices around the world.

The FACC practice at Willis Towers Watson, working with our client and claim advocates, assists clients in the preparation, quantification, and resolution of large and complex claims including property damage, business interruption, extra expense, contingent business interruption, FEMA and third party claims as well as pre-loss planning and the calculation of business interruption values. We add value to our clients by quantifying the loss amounts, gathering the necessary supporting documents, preparing and submitting the claim on the client's behalf, and managing the entire claim while maximizing the recovery within the parameters defined by the insurance policy.

The FACC team at Willis Towers Watson is among the industry's leaders in providing claim preparation and quantification services to large multi-national clients. The senior leaders of the FACC team have worked on some of the most challenging and complex insurance claims resulting from some of the world's largest catastrophes and disasters,

such as Superstorm Sandy and Hurricane Harvey, and other hurricanes that have caused large scale damages. FACC team members are at the forefront of their field and have been admitted as expert witnesses in local, federal, and international courts and tribunals. In addition, FACC team members have been successful in quantifying and recovering billions of dollars on behalf of clients.

Situation update:

Hurricane Laura made landfall in Louisiana near the Texas border early August 27, 2020 as a Category 4 storm with maximum sustained winds of 150 mph.

That made Laura the most intense hurricane to make landfall in Louisiana in 164 years, since what was called the Last Island Storm in 1856. It is also tied for the strongest hurricane on record to ever hit the state.

Laura made landfall in Cameron, Louisiana, around 1 a.m. (2 a.m. ET), according to the National Hurricane Center, which called it an "extremely dangerous" storm.

It was later downgraded to a Category 2 hurricane as it moves inland, where it is expected to travel north across Louisiana through Thursday afternoon. The National Weather Service has said that devastation could spread far inland in eastern Texas and western Louisiana.

Disasters of this scale often result in complex insurance claims. The FACC team can help.

How FACC can help you and your clients recover from catastrophic events

The FACC team is available to assist with the calculations and preparation of claims resulting from business interruption, contingent business interruption, property damage, extra expense, contents and stock losses. FACC works in conjunction with the Willis Towers Watson Claims Advocates and other associates to move quickly through the settlement process and maximize claim recoveries based on the policy wording in place.

FACC helps clients across all industries and geographies recover from catastrophic events such as Hurricane Laura and can add value by:

- Simplifying the claim process so clients can focus on returning to normal day-to-day business activities
- Assist and manage the FEMA Claims process
- Quantifying the loss amounts and gathering the necessary supporting documents
- Minimizing the overall disruption to business operations by obtaining cash advances in the early stages of a loss
- Preparing and submitting the claim on the client's behalf in a format that is familiar to insurers
- Working directly with the adjuster and the carrier's experts
- Participating in meetings to explain the methodology behind loss calculations and respond to requests for additional documentation

Contacts

Ken Giambagno, CPA, CFF

Head of Forensic Accounting & Complex Claims

Direct: +212 915 8599

Mobile: +201 925 4247

kenneth.giambagno@willistowerswatson.com

The observations, comments and suggestions we have made in this publication are advisory and are not intended nor should they be taken as legal advice. Please contact your own legal advisor for an analysis of your specific facts and circumstances.

About Willis Towers Watson

Willis Towers Watson (NASDAQ: WLTW) is a leading global advisory, broking and solutions company that helps clients around the world turn risk into a path for growth. With roots dating to 1828, Willis Towers Watson has 45,000 employees serving more than 140 countries and markets. We design and deliver solutions that manage risk, optimize benefits, cultivate talent, and expand the power of capital to protect and strengthen institutions and individuals. Our unique perspective allows us to see the critical intersections between talent, assets and ideas – the dynamic formula that drives business performance. Together, we unlock potential. Learn more at willistowerswatson.com.



willistowerswatson.com/social-media
willistowerswatson.com/social-media

Copyright © 2020 Willis Towers Watson. All rights reserved.
WTW483853/08/20

willistowerswatson.com

Willis Towers Watson