

Insurance & Litigation

Our Disaster Preparedness & Recovery Client Team has significant prior experience in the multiple insurance and business issues, including litigation, that typically arise as a result of a catastrophic event. Jones Walker can help clients take the critical steps necessary in order to preserve their claims, protect their property, and maintain their property values. The firm has handled similar matters in Louisiana in connection with Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma in 2005, as well as Hurricanes Gustav and Ike in 2008.

Our attorneys have assisted clients with contract claims arising after a destructive natural disaster, including those involving breach, failure to perform, and force majeure. A force majeure event may occur when an unforeseen event, such as a hurricane, renders the performance of a contract impossible. The firm can provide assistance with the statutory and contractual issues involving an impossibility defense to contract performance.

With regard to Hurricane Katrina, we have assisted clients in numerous cases involving property damage and business interruption losses. In those cases, we have assisted with the recovery of more than \$300 million in property damage and business interruption and extra expense damages. We have handled such claims for oil and gas producers, pipelines, manufacturers, food service companies, colleges and universities, nursing homes, professional service firms, to name a few.

In the aftermath of any large-scale disaster, Jones Walker is available to assist clients with the numerous issues that may arise, including analyzing and litigating contract and insurance claims involving property damage, whether by wind or flood; business interruption; and extra expense. The firm is also available to help clients with insurance coverage issues, such as mold and pollution exclusions, and duplicate coverage issues. We can advise clients on the the selection and supervision of experts in adjustment, construction, business income losses, and more.