

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John Zakariassen

John Zakariassen was a Senior Risk Management Consultant for CityCounty Insurance Services of Oregon (CIS), and worked in this capacity for over 24 years, from January 1, 1996 thru December 31, 2019, before retiring January 1, 2020. In his position as a CIS Senior Risk Management Consultant, John performed over 1400 safety inspections and loss control audits during the 24 years employed by CIS, to ensure cities and counties were in compliance with OR-OSHA rules and regulations, and generally acceptable "Best Practices". Additionally, John conducted property assessments and identified public liability exposures involving streets, sidewalks, playgrounds, senior centers, libraries, water and wastewater treatment plants, public works shops, and any other potential site for hazards which directly or indirectly impacted the public, and employees. *John's inspections had produced over 12,000 specific recommendations for abating or correcting hazardous conditions.* Discoveries included: a) OR-OSHA rule violations and b) poor risk management practices identified within the workplace. John also conducted claims loss reviews, surveys of "Best Practices" doctrines, determined compliance to OR-OSHA written program requirements, and performed numerous training workshops, including a 4-hour course: "Revitalizing Safety Committees, Hazard Identification in the Workplace, and Accident Investigation Techniques"; a 3-hour course on "Risk Management Techniques for Sewer Backups, Emergency Response Procedures and Maintenance Programs for Sewer Backups", a 2-hour course on PPE, MSDS and Ladder Safety, a 2-hour course on "Driven to Distractions", and a 1 ½ hour course on Winter Driving—When Good Weather Goes Bad, another safe driver workshop.

Prior to CIS, John served as the State Risk Manager for Oklahoma. John was working in this capacity when on April 19, 1995 the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building was bombed. The collateral impact of the bombing to the adjacent building, the Journal Record (where John's office was located), resulted in the loss of eight state agency offices, including his Risk Management Office, as well as the loss of almost \$5 million of state furnishings, supplies, and electronic data processing equipment. More than 300 state employees required relocation to new work sites necessitating more than 87,000 square feet of office space. In the wake of this "terror in the heartland," Mr. Zakariassen personally directed and managed the disaster response and recovery for the eight state agency offices; his personal hands-on experience, lessons learned, and successful recovery operations in this "baptism-by-fire" lent him unique insights into the perplexing field of disaster preparedness, response and recovery. The skills shaped by this tragedy and Mr. Zakariassen's gift as a talented presenter have placed him in demand as a trainer-- one who has conducted more than 75 disaster workshops in the years from 1995 through 2004, in six states (including Oregon and Washington).

Mr. Zakariassen is a graduate of Oklahoma State University with a master's degree MA, in Public Administration 1978-1979; and a B.S. in Political Science, Public Affairs 1974-1977. He previously served as District Coordinator for the former United States Congressman, Mickey Edwards, District 5 in Oklahoma, 1984-1987. Other past experience includes positions held as City Manager for the cities of Del City (1987-93) and The Village (1980-84), and as Assistant City Manager, Director of Community Planning and Development for the City of Guthrie (1979-80), all in Oklahoma. John has earned a 10-year Certificate of Service from the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), was a member of the Oregon Public Risk & Insurance Management Association (OR-PRIMA), and was a member of the National League of Cities-Risk Information Sharing Consortium (NLC-RISC). John also served on the GOSH (Governor's Occupational Health and Safety) Planning Committee from 1997 thru 2019; and served on the OR-OSHA Partnership Committee from 2015-2019. The committee was comprised of 25 members state-wide, appointed by the Executive Director of OR-OSHA, Michael Woods, and met quarterly.

About CIS:

Since 1981 CIS (Citycounty Insurance Services) has been the trusted provider of coverage for Oregon's cities and counties. Member-owned and governed, CIS is available only to the members of the League of Oregon Cities and the Association of Oregon Counties. CIS brings its members together to meet the unique risk management and financing needs of local public entities, offering Workers' Compensation, Property, Liability, Auto Liability, and Employee Benefits.